

Leo's Big Climb: A Lesson in Resilience

Learning objective: To understand the meaning of resilience and identify how to overcome challenges through a positive mindset.

Read the story below about Leo the Lion and answer the questions. Make sure to use evidence from the text to support your answers.

Leo the Lion wanted to reach the top of the Windy Crag to see the sunrise. He had never climbed so high before. Halfway up, the path became steep and slippery with loose gravel. Leo slipped twice, sliding back down the trail. Feeling frustrated, he sat under a shady tree and let out a heavy sigh. He considered turning back. Suddenly, he remembered his friend Pip the caterpillar, who always kept moving forward, one inch at a time. Leo realized that giving up would not get him to the summit. He took a deep breath, adjusted his footing, and decided to take smaller, more careful steps. He focused on the next rock instead of the whole mountain. It was hard work, and his legs felt tired, but he did not stop. When he finally reached the peak, the golden sunrise warmed his face. Leo felt proud, not just because of the view, but because he had kept going when things felt difficult. He had learned that being resilient meant trying again, even after a stumble.

Word bank: Resilience · Challenge · Persevere · Positive · Goal · Obstacle

1. Why did Leo decide to stop climbing halfway up the Windy Crag? (2 marks)

2. What specific strategy did Leo use to help him finish his climb? (2 marks)

3. How do we know that Leo was feeling discouraged before he reached the top? (2 marks)

4. Why is it important to focus on 'the next rock' rather than the whole mountain when facing a difficult task? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Leo would have felt the same sense of pride if he had turned back halfway? Explain your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Leo the Lion standing at the top of the Windy Crag looking at the sunrise, with his walking stick beside him.



Extension challenge: Think of a time when you found something difficult, like learning a new skill or finishing a tricky task. Write three sentences about how you showed resilience, just like Leo.