# Leo the Lion's Christmas Eve Surprise

*Learning objective: To read a short narrative text and answer comprehension questions, focusing on retrieval and inference.*

Read the story about Leo the Lion below. Think about how the characters feel and what happens in the story. Answer the questions in the spaces provided.

It was a snowy Christmas Eve in the woodland. Leo the Lion sat by his fireplace, writing a poem about the winter stars. He heard a soft knock at his door. When he opened it, he found Bea the honeybee shivering in the cold. She had been collecting late-blooming winter flowers and got caught in a snowstorm. Leo quickly gave her a warm blanket and a mug of hot cocoa. 'You are safe now,' Leo said gently. They spent the rest of the evening reading stories by the fire. Leo felt happy because he had shared his home with a friend. It was the most perfect Christmas gift of all.

*Word bank: generous · twinkling · festive · kindness · celebrate · magnificent*

**1. Where was Leo the Lion when he heard the knock at the door? (1 mark)**

**2. Why was Bea the honeybee outside in the cold? (1 mark)**

**3. What two things did Leo give to Bea to help her feel warm? (2 marks)**

**4. How do you know that Leo is a kind friend? Use evidence from the story. (2 marks)**

**5. What does the author mean by the phrase 'the most perfect Christmas gift of all'? (2 marks)**

**Draw: Draw a picture of Leo the Lion and Bea the honeybee sitting by the fireplace, showing the warm and cosy scene from the story.**

*Extension challenge: Write two sentences about a kind thing you could do for a friend or family member this Christmas.*