

The Mosaic of the Meadow

Learning objective: To understand the importance of diversity and inclusion within a community and how individual differences contribute to a stronger group.

Read the text carefully, then answer the questions that follow. Ensure your answers are supported by evidence from the text.

In the heart of the Whispering Woods, the animals gathered to plan the annual Summer Solstice Festival. Nova the owl suggested that every creature should contribute something that reflected their unique skills. Zara the zebra, who spent her days observing the intricate patterns of the forest, proposed that the festival should feature a display of collective art. Meanwhile, Max the monkey was busy calculating the logistics, ensuring that the budget of £50 was spent fairly to include supplies for everyone. Some animals were worried that their differences would make planning difficult, but Leo the lion, the group's gentle leader, reminded them that a forest is only vibrant because of its variety. 'If we were all the same, we would only see one perspective,' Leo explained. By embracing their differences, the group discovered that Kit's clever computing skills helped map the stalls, while Pip the caterpillar curated a library of stories from every corner of the woods. Through inclusion, the animals turned a simple gathering into a mosaic of cultures and talents, proving that true strength lies in valuing what makes each individual different.

Word bank: diversity · inclusion · perspective · community · unique · collaboration

1. Identify two specific tasks that different animals took responsibility for during the festival planning. (2 marks)

2. How much money did the animals have to spend, and what was it intended for? (2 marks)

3. Explain why Leo the lion believes that having a group with different skills is better than a group where everyone is the same. (3 marks)

4. What might happen to the festival if the animals decided to exclude those who had different ideas to the majority? (3 marks)

5. Justify why the author uses the metaphor of a 'mosaic' to describe the community of animals. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Community Mosaic' showing Nova, Zara, Max, Leo, Kit, and Pip working together on the festival, incorporating patterns, books, and maps to show their individual contributions.



Extension challenge: Write a short persuasive speech (100 words) from the perspective of an animal who feels left out, explaining to the group why your unique perspective is a valuable asset to the festival team.