

The Art of Bouncing Back: Lessons from Leo

Learning objective: To understand the concept of resilience and identify strategies for overcoming challenges.

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions below. Think deeply about how Leo handles his setbacks.

Leo the lion was tasked with organising the Great Forest Talent Showcase. He spent weeks drafting a poem, but when he stood upon the stage, his mind went blank. The silence felt heavy, and Leo felt his confidence crumble. Rather than retreating to his den in defeat, Leo took a deep, steadying breath. He remembered that even the tallest trees sway in a storm but remain rooted. He smiled at his friends, admitted he had forgotten his lines, and began a new, improvised verse about the beauty of the stars. The audience erupted in applause. Later, Leo reflected on the experience. He realised that resilience is not about never failing; it is about the courage to keep going after a stumble. It is the ability to adapt when plans go awry and to view mistakes as valuable lessons rather than permanent failures. By shifting his perspective, Leo turned a moment of panic into a triumph of character. He proved that true strength is found in our capacity to rise again, dusting ourselves off with grace and determination, ready for the next adventure.

Word bank: Resilience · Perseverance · Perspective · Obstacle · Determination

1. What specific action did Leo take when he first forgot his lines on stage? (2 marks)

2. According to the text, what is the difference between failing and resilience? (2 marks)

3. Why does the author use the metaphor of a tree swaying in a storm to describe Leo's situation? (2 marks)

4. Explain why Leo decided to improvise a new poem instead of leaving the stage. (2 marks)

5. Do you agree that 'mistakes are valuable lessons'? Justify your answer using an example from your own life or studies. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing Leo the lion standing on stage, transforming his 'heavy' feeling into a bright, creative idea. Show how his perspective has shifted.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast Leo's reaction to his mistake with how someone might react if they lacked resilience. Write a short paragraph explaining why a growth mindset is essential for academic success in Year 5.