The Forest Friendship Circle

Learning objective: To understand the qualities of a healthy friendship and how to resolve misunderstandings.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below using full sentences where appropriate.

In the heart of the Whispering Woods, Nova the owl and Max the monkey were the best of friends. They spent their afternoons stargazing and solving complex maths puzzles together. However, one Tuesday, a disagreement arose. Max wanted to build a bridge across the stream using sticks, while Nova insisted they should catalogue the constellations in her notebook instead. They argued, and for the rest of the day, they sat at opposite ends of the clearing in silence.

By sunset, the woods felt lonely. Nova realised that being right wasn't as important as being kind. She flew over to Max and apologised for not listening to his ideas. Max, who had been feeling miserable, smiled and admitted he had been stubborn too. They decided to compromise: they would build the bridge first, and then spend the evening studying the stars from their new vantage point. Their friendship grew stronger because they learned that true pals don’t always agree, but they always choose to listen, respect each other’s feelings, and find a solution together. Friendship is built on trust, patience, and the willingness to say sorry.

Word bank: empathy · cooperation · forgiveness · perspective · trustworthy

1. What two activities did Nova and Max enjoy doing together at the start of the story? (2 marks)

2. What compromise did the two friends reach to solve their disagreement? (2 marks)

3. Why did the woods feel 'lonely' to Nova and Max after their argument? (2 marks)

4. How can you tell that Nova and Max value their friendship more than winning an argument? (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is possible to be best friends with someone who has different interests to you? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Nova and Max working together on their bridge by the stream, showing them both smiling and cooperating.

Extension challenge: Write a short dialogue between two friends who have had a disagreement. Show how they use kind words to resolve the problem and move forward.