

Level 1-1
The Town Mouse
and the Country Mouse

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse is a story about two mice who visit each other's homes.

The town mouse meets his friend, the country mouse, in the country. The country mouse shows the town mouse his home. He gives the town mouse some food. The town mouse thinks the food is not bad. But he says his home and food are better. The town mouse invites the country mouse to his home in the town.

The two mice go to the town. They go to a big house. The town mouse says it is his home. There is a lot of food in the dining room. It is all delicious. The two mice eat and eat. Then the country mouse hears a loud noise. The noise comes from two dogs. The country mouse is scared, but the town mouse is not worried.

The two dogs open the door and come into the dining room. They see the two mice and try to catch them. The mice run away.

The country mouse thinks life in the town is too dangerous. He decides to go back to the country where it is safe.

2. Section Summary

► **Pages 6-11:** The country mouse welcomes the town mouse to his home. He shows the town mouse his home and gives him food. The town mouse is not impressed. The town mouse wants to show the country mouse that his home and food are better. So they go to the town.

► **Pages 12-15:** The town mouse lives in a big house. The country mouse thinks it is wonderful. The town mouse takes him into the dining room where there are cakes, cookies, and cheese. The country mouse thinks the food is delicious. Suddenly, the country mouse hears a loud noise.

► **Pages 16-20:** The noise is made by two big dogs, but the town mouse is not afraid. Then the door opens, and the dogs see the mice. They try to catch the mice, but the mice run away. The country mouse decides that he would rather eat poor food where it is safe than eat delicious food where it is dangerous.

B. Background and Themes

★ **Rich vs. Poor (Social roles):** Is it better to be rich or poor? Everyone has problems whether they have a lot or a little. The country mouse lives a simple life. The food is not great, but he is safe and happy. The rich mouse has an extravagant life. There is a lot of delicious food, but he lives in danger of being caught by the dogs.

★ **Greed:** The town mouse likes a big house and delicious food. He thinks the country mouse cannot possibly be happy living such a simple life. But wanting more can lead to real problems.

Answer Key

Part A. Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. Fables are stories that teach a lesson.
2. They come from Greece.
3. They are old, famous, and very interesting.

► Characters

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Town Mouse | lives in the <u>town</u> likes <u>danger</u> eats <u>delicious food</u> has a <u>fancy life</u> |
| Country Mouse | lives in the <u>country</u> likes <u>safety</u> eats <u>poor food</u> has a <u>simple life</u> |

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Beginning (Pages 6-11)

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about two mice in the country.
2. I know a story called Belling the Cat.
3. I think the town mouse will not like the country.

B. Review Questions

1. He thinks his home is better.
2. He thinks his food is better.
3. He wants to go to his home in the town.

► Middle (Pages 12-15)

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the two mice in the town.
2. It is better for a mouse to live in the country.
3. I think the country mouse will not like the town.

B. Review Questions

1. His house is big.
2. There are cakes, cookies, and cheese.
3. He thinks it is delicious.

► End (Pages 16-20)

A. Preview Questions

1. It is about the angry country mouse.
2. I would rather live in the country.
3. He might want to go home because he is scared of the dogs.

B. Review Questions

1. Two dogs make a big noise.
2. They run because the big dogs try to catch them.
3. He likes the country because he feels safe there.

Mini Quiz

a. Look before you leap.

→ You should consider possible consequences before you act.

b. It is better to have a little in safety than a lot in danger.

→ It is better to have less and be safe than to have a lot and be scared for your life.

c. Slow and steady wins the race.

→ Being consistent is more beneficial than being fast and careless.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. A: How do you like school?

B: It is fun.

5. A: How do you like your clothes?

B: They are fantastic.

► Challenge

1. A mouse goes to the country to see his friend.
2. The mice go to a big house in the town.
3. There is lots of food in the dining room.
4. The country mouse does not like danger.

Part B. Skill Focus

► Vocabulary Preview

A.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <u>ch</u> air | 2. <u>d</u> anger |
| 3. del <u>ic</u> ious | 4. <u>c</u> oun <u>tr</u> y |
| 5. <u>m</u> ice | 6. <u>s</u> af <u>e</u> ty |
| 7. <u>p</u> oor | 8. <u>n</u> oi <u>s</u> e |
| 9. din <u>ing</u> room | 10. bet <u>te</u> r |

B.

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. b | 2. b |
| 3. a | 4. a |
| 5. b | 6. b |
| 7. a | |

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Pages 6-11

A.

1. T 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. F

B.

1. c 2. a 3. d 4. b

C.

1. a 2. b 3. d 4. b 5. c

► Middle: Pages 12-15

A.

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. F

B.

1. d 2. c 3. b 4. a

C.

1. d 2. a. 3. b 4. d 5. a

► End: Pages 16-20

A.

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. F

B.

1. Country Mouse

2. Town Mouse

3. Town Mouse

4. Country Mouse

C.

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. d

Think and Write

1. mouse
2. dogs
3. run
4. town
5. country

Vocabulary Review

1. My home is better.
2. There are cakes and cookies.
3. The mice like cheese.
4. One mouse lives in the country.
5. There are two mice.
6. The friends meet.
7. The house is big.
8. What is that noise?
9. They run under a chair.
10. I do not like this place.

Summary

A.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 4 |

B.

1. The town mouse goes to the country.
2. There is delicious food.
3. Two big dogs see the mice.
4. The country mouse goes home.

Book Report

Story c → a → e → b → d