

Scaredy Squirrel
p.202 in Nelson Literacy

Read the story, Scaredy Squirrel and answer the following questions. Be sure to read the directions carefully.

Multiple Choice: Circle the best answer.

1. What was Scaredly squirrel afraid of?
 - a. trees
 - b. water
 - c. sharks
 - d. worms

2. What did he consider to be an advantage of staying in the tree?
 - a. He didn't have any view
 - b. He got to eat the same nuts all the time
 - c. He had plenty of visitors
 - d. He felt it was a safe place

3. What items did he have in his emergency kit?
 - a. Plenty of nuts
 - b. A green Martian
 - c. Some poison ivy
 - d. A parachute

Proper Answer format: Choose 1 of the following questions using **proper answer format:**

1. What is the theme of the story? Explain how the story develops the theme.

2. Describe the conflict in the story.

3. Describe the character of Scaredy Squirrel. Give a brief physical description as well as two traits. Be sure to give one example for each of the traits discussed.

Personal Response: Answer the following question in a well written paragraph

4. How did the bee change Squirrel's life? Explain. What would you have done if you were in the same situation that day when the bee arrived? Explain why?

Sample answers:

Multiple choice: 1 (c), 2 (d), 3 (d)

1. In the story "Scaredy Squirrel" by Melanie Watt there is a good theme. Theme is the main message of a story. The theme of this story is, Sometimes we need to overcome fear to live life to the fullest. There was a squirrel who was afraid of many things, like bees, sharks, martians etc. He was so afraid that he wouldn't leave his tree. He felt the tree was the safest place. But then, one day, a bee came in to the tree causing him to jump out. He realized that he was a flying squirrel and went on an unexpected adventure. He overcame his fears and realized that he could have fun outside his tree. He then planned to jump out of the tree every day, because it was fun. This shows that once he faced his fears, he began living life to the fullest. A quote to show this is, "all this excitement has caused Scaredy Squirrel to make drastic changes to his life...". This shows that after being forced to jump from the tree when the bee flew in, the squirrel decided to live his life more, he made changes to his routine. In conclusion, this is the theme of the story.
2. There was conflict in the story "Scaredy Squirrel" by Melanie Watt. Conflict is a struggle between opposing forces. The conflict in the story is internal. It is between Scaredy and himself. The conflict developed because Scaredy was afraid of many things. He had created an emergency kit, and wouldn't leave the tree where he lived. He felt it was the safest place. He was focused on his fears. Then, one day, a bee flew into the tree. Scaredy was afraid of the bee, which caused him to decide to jump out of the tree. Even though he had left his tree, he played dead in the bush for two hours, still afraid that something bad would happen. When nothing bad happened, Scaredy realized that he had fun out of the tree, and that nothing bad happened. He then resolved his conflict, by deciding to change his routine and leave the tree each day. A quote to support the conflict is, "the unknown can be a scary place for a squirrel...". This shows that the squirrel was afraid to leave his tree and wanted to stay where he felt safe, his tree. In conclusion, this is the conflict in the story.
3. There is an interesting character in the story "Scaredy Squirrel" by Melanie Watt. Characters are the people in the story. The character in the story was named Scaredy. He was brown, with an orange mouth. He had a pink nose and a yellow belly. Scaredy was very prepared. He had an emergency kit to help with all of the disasters he imagined. Scaredy was organized. He had a daily schedule that he follow each day, and he didn't stray from the schedule. Scaredy Squirrel was also afraid. He was scared of bees, tarantulas, Martians, germs and many other things. A quote to show that Scaredy was afraid is, "The unknown can be a scary place for a squirrel". This shows that he was afraid of going to new places. In conclusion, this describes the interesting character of Scaredy Squirrel.

4. The bee that flew into the tree changed the squirrels life. The bee forced the squirrel to jump out of his comfortable tree and into the unknown. IT forced him to leave his comfort zone. This allowed him to realize that “there is nothing horrible in the unknown today”. This allowed squirrel to become more adventurous and brave. If I was in the same situation as the squirrel, I would have also jumped out of the tree. I too am afraid of bees and it would have caused me to jump.