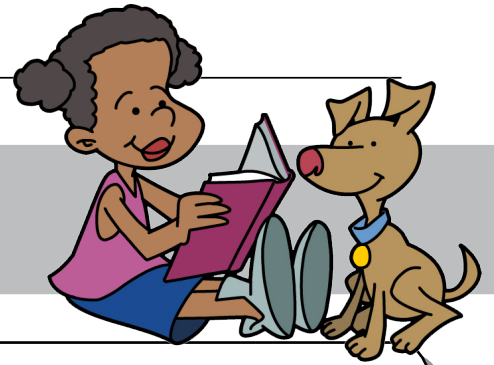


The Sun and the Wind

Name: _____

Listen to the story.



The Sun and the Wind

Aesop's fable

One day, the proud wind declared to the sun, 'I am the strongest and most effective of all the weather!' The sun replied, 'All weather can be strong and effective.'

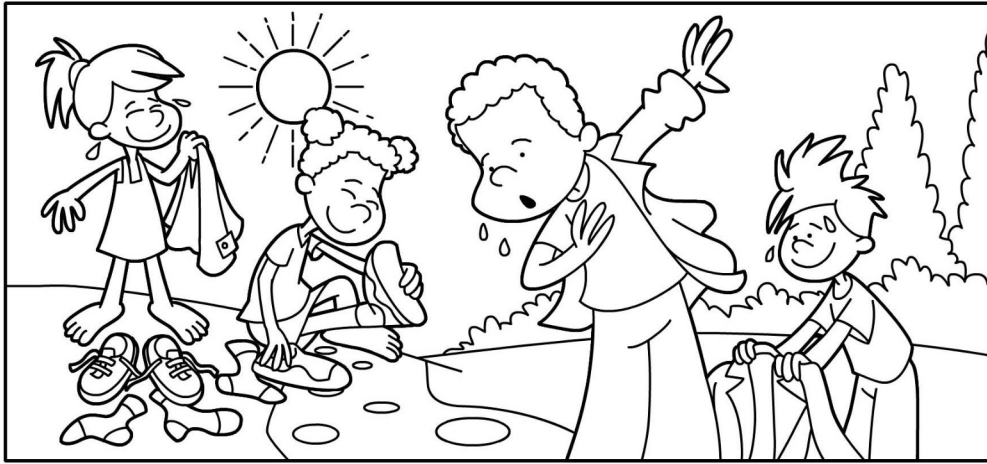
The wind disagreed. 'All weather is strong,' said the wind, 'but I am the strongest of all. Let us have a competition to prove this. The weather that causes people to remove or lose more clothing items will be the strongest weather of all!

The sun agreed to take part in the competition and suggested that the wind should go first. The wind blew and blew upon the earth, creating first a light breeze, and then massive gales that swept across the lands below. Peoples' hats flew up into the air and many were forced to hold tightly to their jackets and coats so that they would not lose them in the mighty gale.

After many minutes of blowing and blowing, the wind had managed to cause a great deal of chaos. He had blown away many hats. He had swept away empty bottles, rubbish, newspapers and umbrellas, but he had not caused people to lose their clothes.



Next it was the sun's turn. The sun shone brightly in the clear blue sky, heating up the earth below until the people began to sweat from the heat. First they removed their shoes, then socks, then jackets. They were trying to stay cool in the heat.



When the wind saw how effective the sun had been, he grew very angry and caused the weather to change from sunshine back to wind so that the people below had to quickly put their clothes back on. Wind could not believe that the sun had won the competition.

The rain and clouds, and the rest of the weather, all cheered for the sun and hailed him as the new hero, but the sun immediately stopped the cheering and told everyone that he was not a hero at all, but that all weather was important in its own unique way. 'There cannot be one of us without the other,' explained the sun.

'Each of us does an important job, and each of us depends on the other to create the seasons. We water the earth, we blow the clouds across the sky, we give people light and shade, and we make sure that trees and flowers and crops grow in the earth.'

Wind understood then that everything and everybody is different. It is important not to feel that you are better than anybody else. Wind also understood how important it was to work as a team so that you might make the most of the strengths of those around you. And so all the weather worked in harmony, each doing the task best suited to them, each appreciating the work of the other.

Answer questions about the story:

1. Who had the competition?



2. Why did they have the competition?



3. What did they do in the competition?



4. Who won the competition?



5. What did the sun say when he won the competition?

