

16-THE KIND PRICE



Siddhartha was born in Kapilvastu. His father was king Suddhodhana and his mother was queen Mahamaya. He lived in a beautiful palace but he was not happy there. He went to the garden everyday and sat there for hours. He saw the beautiful trees, flowers, birds and butterflies there, and enjoyed the songs of the birds. At the age of sixteen he completed his education, and married princess Yashodhara. He was very kind to birds, insects, animals and human beings and loved them all. Devadatta was Siddhartha's cousin. But he was very proud and cruel. He was not kind to the birds and animals.

One day Siddhartha was walking in the garden with his cousin Devadatta, who had brought his bow and arrows with him. Suddenly, Devadatta saw a swan flying and shot at it. His arrow brought the swan down. The swan fell onto the ground. Siddhartha lifted it and took it on his lap. He pulled the arrow out and washed the wound. He gave it water to drink.

Devadatta came to Siddhartha with the bow and arrows. He saw the swan in Siddhartha's lap.

Devadatta : Give that swan to me. I shot it. It is my swan.

Siddhartha : Fie, fie! You shot this lovely bird. You are really cruel. You should be kind to birds and animals.

Devadatta : No, I am not cruel. I am brave. Give me my swan.

Siddhartha : I will not give you this bird. I saved it. It is my swan.

Devadatta : I am going to the king. He will decide.

(Siddhartha also went to the king. The king listened to them and gave his judgement.)

King : Devadatta, it is not your bird as you shot it. It is Siddhartha's bird as he saved it.

The saviour is always greater than the slayer

New Words

Word Pronunciation Meaning

insects - इन्सॅक्ट्स् - कीड़े-मकोड़े

crown - क्राउन् - ताज

cousin - कज़िन् - चचेरा भाई

swan - स्वॉन् - हंस

bow and arrow - बो ऐण्ड् ऐरो - तीर और कमान

wound - वून्ड् - घाव

fire - फ़ाइ - छी

cruel - क्रुअल् - क्रूर

saviour - सेव्अ(र्) - बचाने वाला

slayer - स्लेअ्(र्) - मारनेवाला

Comprehension Questions

1. Answer the following questions :

- a. Where was Siddhartha born?
- b. What were the names of Siddhartha's parents?
- c. Why was Siddhartha not happy though he lived in a beautiful palace?
- d. Who shot the swan?
- e. What did Siddhartha do to save the swan?
- f. What was the judgement of the king?

2. Who said the following? Write their names in the box. One has been done for you :

a. I shot it. - Devadatta

b. I am brave--

c. You should be kind to birds and animals--

d. Give that swan to me--

e. I will not give you this bird.--

f. It is Siddhartha's bird as he saved it.--

Activity

» Make a 'First Aid Kit' for your class/school with the help of your teachers and friends.

Include the following items in your First Aid Kit :

1. antiseptic lotion

2. lint, gauze or similar bandage material

3. scissors

4. iodine solution

5. painkiller tablets

6. nasal decongestant spray

7. cotton wool

8. tweezers

9. antibiotic ointment

10. thermometer

» Fill colours of your choice in the given picture :

