Today's read aloud is also a folktale. Does anyone remember what a folktale is? A folktale is a story passed down orally from person to person. This folktale was passed down orally by Native Americans, the first known people to live in what is now called the United States of America.

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Characters in many stories often want something. Let's recall what the characters in the stories we have read, wanted.

Chicken Little	The Three Little Pigs	The Three Billy Goats Gruff	The Wolf and the Seven Little Kids	The Bremen Town Musician s	Momotar o, Peach Boy
S/he wanted to warn everyone that the sky was	They wanted to build a home and be safe from	They wanted to cross the bridge to eat green grass on	The wolf wanted to play with the seven little goat kids	They wanted to see the world and be musician	Momotar o wanted to defeat the oni and return the
Tallitty	the wor	hillside	QQ		things to

What did these characters do to get what they wanted?

Chicken Little	The Three Little Pigs	The Three Billy Goats Gruff	The Wolf and the Seven Little Kids	The Bremen Town Musician s	Momotar o, Peach Boy
She told everyone she met on the way to tell the King	They built homes, escaping the wolf until they finally tricked	They tricked the troll and finally defeated him	The wolf tricked the kids into thinking he was their	They worked together and accidenta lly tricked the uncle	Momotar o and his friends scared and tricked the oni
	the wolf		mother		finally

How were these characters similar in getting what they wanted?

Chicken Little	The Three Little Pigs	The Three Billy Goats Gruff	The Wolf and the Seven Little Kids	The Bremen Town Musician s	Momotar o, Peach Boy
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Listen carefully to find out what Jumping Mouse wants and why. How does Jumping Mouse get what he wants? How is he similar to characters in other read alouds in getting what he wants?



Once there was a small mouse with a big dream. The small mouse had grown up listening to the elders tell wonderful stories about the far off land.



Now the small mouse lived in the brush near the sparkling river.
Brush is a group of bushes and other plants growing close together.
On the other side of the sparkling river was the dry desert. The small mouse had been told that the far off land was on the other side of the dry desert.



Although the mouse was small, he was brave. He intended to go to the far off land. The word intended means the mouse planned and wanted to go to the far off land. One day he said goodbye to his family and friends and set off.



His first challenge was to find a way to cross the beautiful sparkling river. A challenge is something that is hard to do. As he stared at the lapping water, a frog appeared beside him.



"You'll have to swim," said the frog.

I don't know what you mean," replied the small mouse, for he had never swum before.

Watch me," said the frog. And with that the frog jumped into the sparkling river and began to swim.



The small mouse watched the frog for several seconds before announcing, I am afraid I cannot do that. I will have to find another way to cross the sparkling river."

The frog returned to the edge of the river.



"Why are you so determined to cross the sparkling river? Where are you going?" asked the frog.

I am going to the far off land," replied the small mouse.

If you don't mind me saying, you are a very small mouse to cross such a big river and travel such a long distance to the far off land."



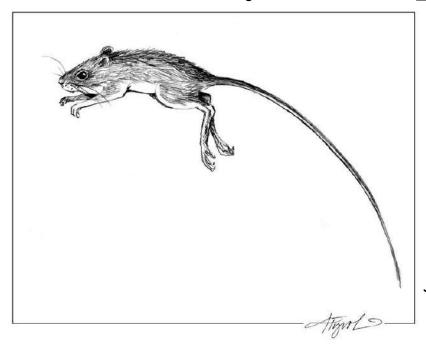
The frog stared at the small mouse for a short time, and seeing that he could not be **swayed** from following his plan, decided to help the small mouse. Not swaying means the mouse would not change his plan, no matter what the



"This is your lucky day," exclaimed the frog. "I am a magic frog and I will help you. I name you Jumping Mouse. You will soon discover that you can jump higher than you have ever jumped before. Follow me, Jumping Mouse, and I will take you across the sparkling river."



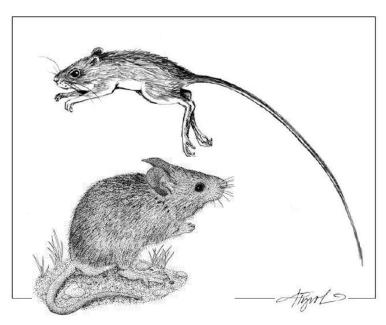
How will the gift of jumping help Jumping Mouse cross the river?



"Goodbye my friend," said the frog. Be brave and hopeful and you will surely reach the far off land."
Thank you," replied Jumping Mouse. I will never forget your kindness."

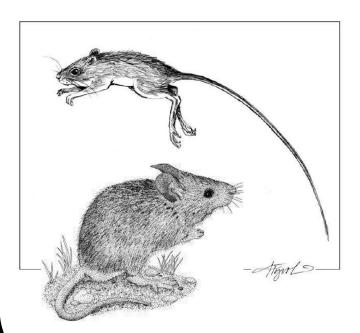


Jumping Mouse set off across the dry desert. He jumped across stones and twigs on his strong legs. As the frog had promised, Jumping Mouse jumped higher than ever before. He traveled by day and by night, stopping only to eat berries whenever he found them.



Eventually Jumping Mouse came to a stream. The stream gave life to this part of the dry desert. Beside the stream grew many buses. Underneath one of the bushes there lived a very fat mouse.

"Good day to you," the fat mouse said to Jumping Mouse.



"Good day," replied Jumping Mouse.' "Where are you going?" asked the fat mouse.
To the far off land," explained Jumping Mouse. However, I would like to rest a while and eat some of the juicy berries that grow on the bushes beside the stream."





Here, the word stream means a small body of water, similar to a river. The word stream can have other meanings. The word stream also means flow freely, such as when tears stream down your face when you are crying.





"Be my guest," said the fat mouse.

Jumping Mouse stayed with the fat mouse for several days. He ate berries and drank from the cool stream. Before long, he felt rested and ready to continue his journey.

"It is time for me to continue my **journey**," said Jumping Mouse one day. The word journey means travel. "Why would you want to travel to a place you are not sure even exists? Stay here with me, where you can eat berries and drink from the stream to your heart's content! But, if you must go, be very careful for the journey will be **perilous** indeed for such a small mouse," warned the fat mouse.

Does the fat mouse think it is a good idea for Jumping Mouse to leave? The word perilous means dangerous.

"I will be careful. And I will find a way to pay forward the kindness you and the frog have shown me. Thank you for your generosity," replied Jumping Mouse, as his powerful legs carried him away.

With hope in his heart, Jumping Mouse continued on his

Way.

Comprehension Questions:

Who are the characters in this story so far?

Comprehension Questions: Why does Jumping Mouse decide to leave his home and travel across the desert?

Comprehension Questions:

What gift does the magic frog give to Jumping Mouse? How does this gift help Jumping Mouse get across the river?

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

Who does Jumping Mouse meet after the magic frog? What does Jumping Mouse promise the fat mouse?

Think. Pair. Share.







I'm going to ask you a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

Think. Pair. Share.







Evaluation Have you ever wanted to know what it is like outside of your city or community? If you could take a journey, where would you want to go?

Word Work

You heard the fat mouse say to Jumping Mouse, "But, if you must go, be careful for the journey may be **perilous**."

Say the word perilous with me.

Perilous means very dangerous.

Walking along the edge of the busy road seemed perilous.

What kinds of things do you think would be **perilous**? Try to use the word perilous when you tell about it.

" _____ would be perilous."

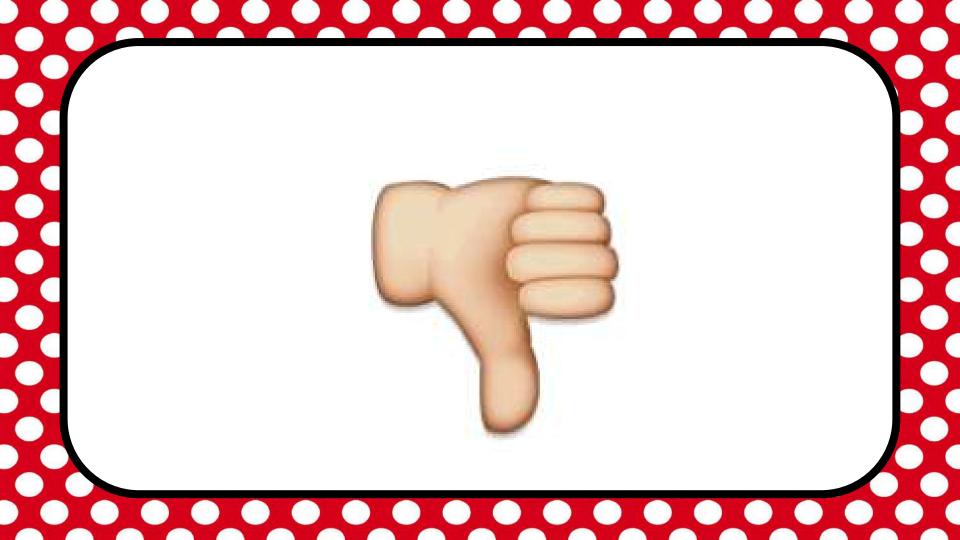
What's the word we have been talking about?



Thumbs Up = Perilous
Thumbs Down = Not Perilous



Chris felt a raindrop land on his head.

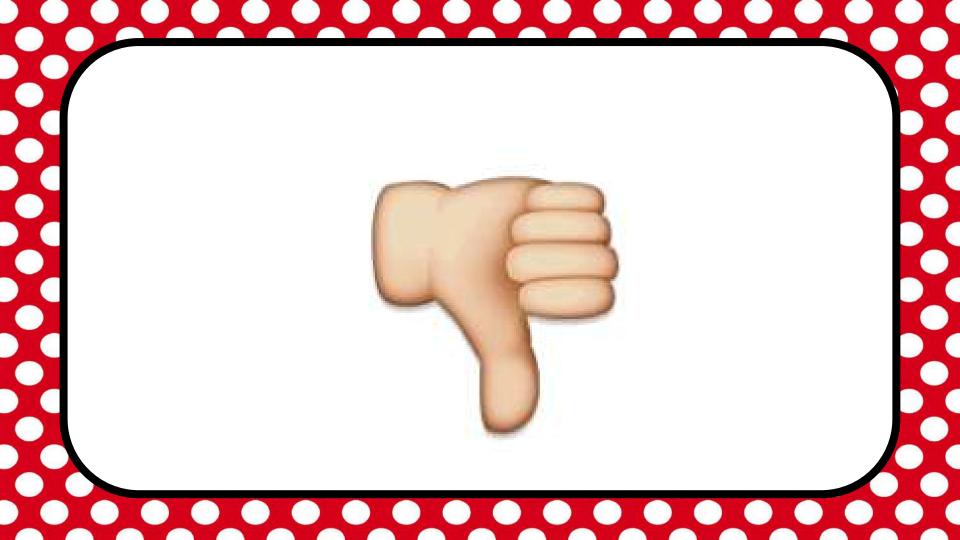




Thumbs Up = Perilous
Thumbs Down = Not Perilous



A boy played in his sandbox.





Thumbs Up = Perilous
Thumbs Down = Not Perilous



A baby bird fell out of its nest.





Thumbs Up = Perilous
Thumbs Down = Not Perilous



The rock climber's hand slipped, and it was only then that he realized that his safety rope was not attached to anything.





Thumbs Up = Perilous
Thumbs Down = Not Perilous



Maria looked both ways before she crossed the street and saw that no cars were coming from either direction.

