



The Story of Jumping Mouse

Part 2

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

The Story of Jumping Mouse is a Native American folktale. Folktales were told orally and passed down from person to person. A folktale is one type of fiction.

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Let's review the definitions of character, setting and plot. A character is who the story is about. The setting is where the story takes place. The plot is what happens in the story. Listen to find out what happens in the second part of the story.

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



Some time later, Jumping Mouse arrived at the great grassy plain. There he found a bison lying forlornly or sadly in the grass. "Hello bison," said Jumping Mouse. "I am Jumping Mouse."

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



“Hello Jumping Mouse. Please tell me how beautiful the sky looks today,” said the bison sadly.

*“Have you lost your sight?” asked Jumping Mouse with **compassion**. When you have compassion, you want to help others when they are having a hard time.*

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



“Yes! I am blind now,” replied the bison. “I do not know what I will do now that I cannot see.”

“I am just an ordinary mouse,” replied Jumping Mouse, “but before I reached the great grassy plain, a magic frog gave me a new name. The frog named me Jumping Mouse.”

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



The name gave me extra strength in my legs. I will name you 'Eyes-of-a-Mouse' in the hope that your eyes will regain their strength. Jumping Mouse hopes that the bison will be able to see again.

No sooner had Jumping Mouse finished speaking, when the bison exclaimed, "I can see!"

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



At that very moment Jumping Mouse realized that he could no longer see.

“And I cannot see!” said Jumping Mouse.

Why can't Jumping Mouse see?

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



“Dear Jumping Mouse,” said the bison. “You have given me your eyes. I am so thankful! Let me do something for you.”

“I am on my way to the far off land,” explained Jumping Mouse. “Though, how I will get there now, I do not know.”

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



“Come, jump beneath my enormous hooves, and I will guide you across the grassy plain to the high mountain,” said the bison gently. Enormous means very big. And with that they set off.

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

When they reached the high mountain, the bison bid farewell to Jumping Mouse. Jumping Mouse rested for a while and then began to climb the mountain. It was difficult, as Jumping Mouse could not easily tell which way to go. He sniffed the air and followed the scent of pine.

How might Jumping Mouse feel at this point?

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Jumping Mouse trod along on grass and rocks. But then he trod on something that felt alarmingly like fur. Jumping Mouse sniffed the air again.

“Wolf!” he said in a frightened voice.

“Do not fear me,” replied the wolf, “for I am a very sad wolf. I have lost my sense of smell. I do not know how I will find food without it.”

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“My dear wolf,” said Jumping Mouse, “it may seem strange, but I gave the bison my sight. I will call you ‘Nose-of-a-Mouse’ and we shall see what will happen.”

What do you think will happen?

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No sooner had Jumping Mouse spoken these words than the wolf sniffed the air and cried, "I can smell you Jumping Mouse, and other wonderful **fragrances** or scents and smells as well. Thank you! I am so grateful. How can I repay you?"

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"I am on my way to the far off land. I am brave and I still have hope that I will get there even though I can no longer see nor smell. Perhaps you can help me."

"I will help you Jumping Mouse. Walk beneath my body and I will lead you onward," said the wolf.

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Onward they went until at last the wolf exclaimed, "I can go no farther. We are on the top of the high mountain. I must bid you goodbye, my friend." And with that, the wolf retreated back down the mountainside.

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

For the first time, Jumping Mouse felt fear. How would he ever get to the far off land now that he could no longer see nor smell? A tiny tear drop fell to the ground. At that very moment, Jumping Mouse heard a familiar voice.

“Do not be fearful,” said the magic frog, for it was he. “You could have misused my gift, but you did not. The word misused means to be used incorrectly. Jumping Mouse could have used all the magic for himself, but instead he shared it with others.”

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Instead, you showed kindness and helped others on your journey. Jump high into the sky, my friend."



The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Jumping Mouse hesitated for just a second, and then he jumped high into the sky. Immediately he felt the air lift him up into the clouds. He felt the warmth of the sun on his back. He looked down and saw the beauty of the land beneath him.

“Jumping Mouse,” said the magic frog, “I am giving you a new name. It is Eagle. Fly away, my friend, and soar on to your new home in the far off land.” And that is exactly what Jumping Mouse did.

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What new characters appeared in the second half of the read aloud?

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What gift does Jumping Mouse give to the bison? What does he name the bison?

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What gift does Jumping Mouse give to the wolf? What name does he give the wolf?

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

What do these gifts tell you about Jumping Mouse? Is he kind, or is he mean? Does Jumping Mouse care about others? How can you tell?

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

What does the magic frog turn Jumping Mouse into at the end of the story? How does this help Jumping 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.



Evaluative:

Jumping Mouse does very nice things for the bison and the wolf when he gives them his own senses of sight and smell. In the end, he is rewarded by the magic frog. He is turned into an eagle and can live in the far off land forever. What lesson can we learn from this story?

Word Work

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

*In the read aloud you heard, “You could have **misused** my gift, but you did not.”*

*Say the word **misused** with me.*

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

Misused means you used it in the wrong way.

Larry **misused** his desk by writing on it.

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

*Have you ever seen or heard of someone who misused something? Try to use the word **misused** when you tell about it.*

*“I saw someone who **misused** _____ by...”*

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2

What's the word we have been talking about?

The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



Thumbs Up = Misused

Thumbs Down = Not Misused



Billy used his toothbrush to comb his hair.



The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



Thumbs Up = Misused

Thumbs Down = Not Misused



Billy used his pencil to write his name on the paper.



The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



Thumbs Up = Misused

Thumbs Down = Not Misused



Billy used a hat as a bowl for his cereal.



The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



Thumbs Up = Misused

Thumbs Down = Not Misused



Billy used scissors to cut the paper.



The Story of Jumping Mouse Part 2



Thumbs Up = Misused

Thumbs Down = Not Misused



Billy used scissors to cut open his apple.

