

Angus

Angus hung upside-down from the tree branch. That was normal, because Angus was a fruit bat. He lived with his mother and hundreds of other fruit bats in a big tree on a mountain.

One day, his mother said to him, 'Angus, you're nearly all grown up now. Soon you'll be able to go out by yourself. You can eat food wherever you find it. But you must promise me one thing—you must never go near the fruit trees by the stream on the far side of the mountain'.



'But why?' asked Angus. 'Why' was just about his favourite word.

'Never mind 'why', Angus,' his mother said. 'Just do as I say. *Never* go near those fruit trees. Promise?'

'Yes, Mum, I promise,' Angus said.

Angus kept his promise, too. But then the summer grew hotter and hotter, and food became harder to find. The fruit bats had to fly further and further each day just to get something to eat.

Many times, Angus found himself near the forbidden fruit trees. Their branches were heavy with ripe, juicy fruit. But he never went any closer.

'Be satisfied with what we have,' his mother told him. 'We are fruit bats, and that's the way it always has been.'

But Angus wasn't satisfied. He even dreamt of that ripe, juicy fruit, just waiting to be eaten.

So, one evening, he made up his mind. When no one was looking, he swooped down on the forbidden trees. It was very quiet and cool beneath the leaves. Angus found a big, red apple. He opened his little mouth with its sharp teeth and bit deeply.

Angus nearly jumped out his skin when someone tapped him on the shoulder.

'What are you doing with *my* fruit?' hissed a voice in his ear.

The bat on the tree branch behind Angus definitely was *not* a fruit bat! He was twice as big as Angus, with an evil-looking face and sharp pointed ears. The strange bat reached out for Angus with his sharp claws.

'Didn't your mother teach you *anything*?' he said. Then he smiled—and Angus saw the two long, pointed fangs in his mouth.

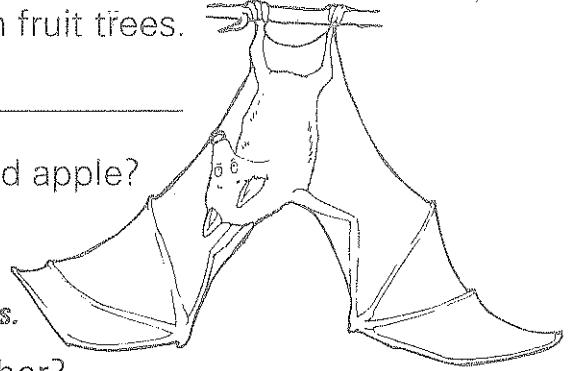
Moral: *The grass is not always greener on the other side of the fence.*

Angus

Level A—Use one word or a short phrase to answer these questions.

1. Where was Angus's home? _____
2. Why was food getting harder to find? _____

3. One morning, Angus flew to the forbidden fruit trees.
True or False? _____
4. What happened after Angus bit the big, red apple?



Level B—Use brief sentences to answer these questions.

1. Why did Angus decide to disobey his mother?

2. What does Angus's mother mean when she says, 'We are fruit bats, and that's the way it always has been'?

3. Do you think Angus's mother knew the *real* reason why the fruit trees were forbidden?

4. Why do you think the fruit bats all lived together in one tree?

Level C—Use full sentences to answer these on a separate piece of paper.

1. In your own words, explain what the moral of this story means.
2. What else could Angus's mother have said to make sure he didn't go near the forbidden fruit trees?
3. What do you think will happen to Angus? Why?
4. If Angus escapes, what message might he take back to the other fruit bats?



Walk this way!

- Follow the path. Convert to metres or kilometres as you go.

Convert to metres

2000 m

2 km

$3\frac{1}{2}$ km

1.6 km

0.7 km

31 km

2.53 km

Convert to kilometres

3000 m

2400 m

1750 m

3 km

1070 m

10000 m

500 m



- Write the total distance covered along the path:
in metres _____ in kilometres _____

Teachers' note Remind the children that converting kilometres to metres requires multiplying by 1000 (thus sliding the digits three places to the left), and converting metres to kilometres requires dividing by 1000 (thus sliding the digits three places to the right). As an extension, mask the values and ask the children to write in one value for each pair of feet for a partner.

Developing Numeracy
Measures, Shape and Space
Year 6
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Gold panning

Charlie and Billy August were gold panners for ten years. They recorded their finds.

- Write the equivalent values.



Gold finds 1520 to 1530

1520	1	oz	30 g
1521		oz	45 g
1522			15 g
1523			150 g
1524			120 g
1525			75 g

1526			60 g
1527			90 g
1528			135 g
1529			105 g
1530			165 g
Total			

Charlie August

Gold finds 1520 to 1530

1520	4 oz	120 g
1521	9 oz	
1522	2 oz	
1523	10 oz	
1524	5 oz	
1525	1 oz	

1526	6 oz	
1527	3 oz	
1528	12 oz	
1529	1 1/4 lb	
1530	2 lb	
Total		

Billy August



Each ounce was worth about £3.

- How much money did each man make in 10 years?

Charlie _____

Billy _____



Teachers' note Remind the children that there are 16 ounces in one pound and ensure they are familiar with the notations 'oz' and 'lb'. As a further extension, the children could calculate approximately how much a gram of gold was worth.

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