

ENGLISH

CHAPTER 5: THE MONKEY AND THE CROCODILE



THE MONKEY AND THE CROCODILE

~Summary~

-by Paul Galdone

The story, "The Monkey and the Crocodile" is an **excerpt** taken from 'Panchatantra stories'. The story starts with a monkey's **desire** of wanting a **friend** for itself near his place. There came a day when a **crocodile** comes on its way. The innocent monkey **introduces** himself to the crocodile and makes him a good friend.

The monkey **regularly offers food** for himself and his wife. Both the monkey and the crocodile **discuss** a lot of things on a **routine** basis. Then came a day when their **conversation exceeded the usual time**. The **crocodile's wife** was **angry** because she struggled hard with the little ones. She **demande**d for the **monkey's heart** when her husband returned home.

Initially, the crocodile was **adamant** in **fulfilling** his **wife's wish**. Still, his wife didn't listen and **dived** into the **water**. As a **dutiful husband**, the crocodile chose to accept his wife's demand instead of safeguarding his friendship. The crocodile invited the **innocent monkey** for a meal the next day. The crocodile revealed its plan in the middle of the river. The **intelligent monkey** used his **presence of mind** and managed to **escape** from the **situation**. The monkey tactfully told the crocodile that it **kept his heart away** on the **tree it resides**.

The **foolish crocodile** took him **back**; the monkey **jumped** on to the **tree quickly** and **relaxed** for a while. It bade **farewell** to the crocodile offering few fruits. The crocodile **realised** its **mistake** and felt **terrible** for **losing** such a **great friend**. The heartbroken crocodile **returned home** with an **anger** towards his **wife**.

Meaning of difficult words:

S. No.	Words	Meaning
1.	Excerpt	A short piece or a segment taken from a book, document, music or a film

~Conclusion~

On reaching the tree, the monkey says a final goodbye to the crocodile. The crocodile sheds tears for having betrayed and lost a true friend. Their story teaches the value of trust and loyalty in friendship. It also shows that our wisdom can save us from dangerous situations and foolish friends.

NCERT SOLUTIONS

Questions (Page No. 24)

Question 1. The monkey was happy living in the fruit tree, but his happiness was not complete. What did he miss?

Answer: The monkey missed a friend with whom he can talk to and share the fruits with.

Question 2. What did the two friends generally talk about?

Answer: They talked about birds and animals and the difficulties faced by the villagers nearby in raising good crops for lack of rain.

Question 3. Why was the crocodile's wife annoyed with her husband one day?

Answer: The crocodile's wife annoyed of waiting for the crocodile to come home and in managing the little crocodiles that had just been hatched.

Question 4. Why was the crocodile unwilling to invite his friend home?

Answer: The crocodile was unwilling to invite his friend home because his wife wanted to eat the monkey's heart but he was very fond of his friend and doesn't want to kill him.

Question 5. What did the crocodile tell the monkey midstream?

Answer: The crocodile told the monkeys that his wife wanted to eat his heart.

Question 6. How did the monkey save himself?

Answer: The monkey said that he forgot his heart on the tree and asked the crocodile to swim back to bring the heart from there.

Question 7. What does the last sentence of the story suggest? What would the crocodile tell his wife?

Answer: The last sentence of the story suggested that the crocodile was really sad for betraying his friend and shed the true tears from his eyes. This suggest that relationship of friendship must



be built on trust, and one should never betray in friendship. The crocodile tells his wife that he was foolish that he listened to her and spoiled his friendship with the monkey.



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