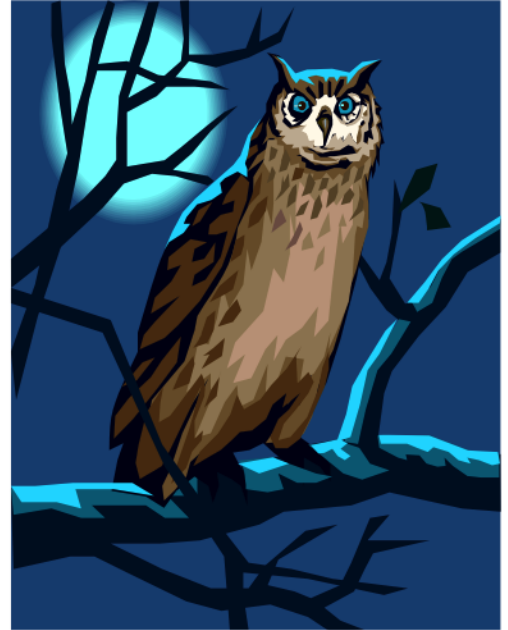


The Clever Owl

The brown owl sat on a branch and watched. He was very good at watching. His big eyes blinked. Down below, a white rabbit played in the grass.

The rabbit was very fast. He was too fast to catch. Every time the owl tried to catch the rabbit, the rabbit ran away.

The owl was hungry, but he had to find a way to catch the rabbit. How could he catch the fast rabbit? If he dove down on top of him, the rabbit would see his shadow and dive into his hole. What could he do?



Suddenly, the owl had an idea. His eyes got really big, because he was excited. A moment later, he took off flying.

When the owl was flying, he made sure to stay away from the rabbit. The owl didn't want the rabbit to know he was coming. Then, when he came close to the rabbit, he stretched out his body to change the shape of his shadow!

The white rabbit stopped eating grass and looked. Suddenly, there was a black rabbit next to him. The white rabbit stared. He didn't know there was a black rabbit near his home. It looked like he could make a new friend!

Without warning, the black rabbit disappeared, and in its place was the owl. The rabbit cried out and tried to run for his hole, but the owl was waiting for him. The rabbit ran right into the owl's claws and became his dinner.

Sometimes, when you try something new, you can surprise yourself and others.

The Clever Owl

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What color is the owl?
 - A. Green
 - B. Brown
 - C. Black
 - D. Yellow

2. Why can't the owl catch the rabbit?
 - A. He's too fast.
 - B. He's too nice.
 - C. He moved to another town.
 - D. Because they're friends.

3. What color of rabbit does the white rabbit think he sees?
 - A. White
 - B. Black
 - C. Brown
 - D. Grey

4. What was the black rabbit really?
 - A. A black rabbit
 - B. The white rabbit
 - C. The owl's shadow
 - D. A spot on the ground

5. Why did the owl finally catch the rabbit?
 - A. He never gave up.
 - B. He didn't catch the rabbit.
 - C. He just got lucky.
 - D. The rabbit didn't care if he got caught.

The Clever Owl – Answer Key

Use the information below to check the answers.

1. What color is the owl?
 - A. Green
 - B. Brown**
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