Read the short story and answer each question.



## Finley and the Feather

Finley the squirrel was racing through the treetops when he spotted something unusual on a branch below—a long, golden feather.

"Ooooh!" Finley said. "It must be magic!"

Just then, Bella the owl swooped down.

"That feather belongs to me," Bella said calmly.

"No way," Finley said. "Finders keepers!"

Bella frowned. "Squirrels don't even use feathers."

"But I found it first," Finley insisted, hugging it close.

Bella landed beside him. "Feathers help me fly. That one fell during my dive. Please return it."

Finley blinked. "Oh... I didn't know it was important."

"It is," said Bella. "But thank you for keeping it safe."

Finley smiled and handed it over. "Next time I find a feather, I'll ask before I keep it."

"Next time," said Bella with a wink, "I'll try not to drop one!"



# Finley and the Feather

- 1. Why did Finley think he could keep the feather?
- A. He thought it was magical
- B. He needed it for his tail
- C. He saw Bella drop it
- D. He didn't like feathers

- 2. Why did Bella want the feather back?
- A. She used it for flying
- B. She wanted to play with it
- C. It was shiny
- D. She didn't like Finley

3. Fill in the blank:	
Finley thought the feather was when he first found it.  4. How did Finley's and Bella's points of view about the feather differ at the beginning of the story?	
5. How did Finley's point of view change after hearing Bella's side?	

## **Parent and Teacher Guide**

Guide Reading Level: K Lexile Level: 330L-480L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

**Genre**: Animal Fantasy

## Introducing the Text

"In this story, we meet two animals who both want the same object for different reasons. As we read, we'll look closely at what each character says and how they feel. Use different voices for Finley and Bella while reading aloud to show how their points of view are different."

Vocabulary: feather, magic, swooped, frowned, hugged

## **Before Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. Have you ever wanted something that someone else thought was theirs?
- 2. What does it mean for characters to have different points of view?
- 3. How can the way someone speaks show what they are thinking or feeling?

## **During Reading Discussion Questions**

- 1. What does Finley think about the feather?
- How does Bella explain her side?
- 3. How do the characters sound when they talk? Why?

#### After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What helped Finley understand Bella's point of view?
- How did their voices and actions show what each character was feeling?
- 3. Why is it helpful to read each character with a different voice?

#### **Activity Idea**

Have students make "point of view puppets" using paper bags—one for Finley and one for Bella. Students then act out the story in partners, practicing using different tones and voices. Afterward, they write a speech bubble for each puppet showing how the character feels at the beginning and end.

