



Context clues

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

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**Context clues** are *hints to the meaning* of a difficult word or phrase.  
These hints can be in the same sentence or in the sentences before  
or after the sentence that uses the difficult word or phrase.  
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As you read the story, pay attention to the underlined words, and any *hints to the meaning* of these words.

Reddy Fox Doesn't Use His Eyes

Reddy Fox had been bragging all through the Green Forest and over the Green Meadows. He had snatched the plump pet chicken of Farmer Brown's boy right out from under the nose of Bowser the Hound. Everyone was just about fed up with his boasting. But no one, and certainly not Reddy, knew that Bowser the Hound was hot on his trail, with Farmer Brown's boy close behind.

"Bow, wow, wow, wow!" roared Bowser the Hound. Reddy Fox, taking a nap on the edge of the Green Forest, heard Bowser's big, deep voice. He pricked up his ears, then he grinned. "It's only Bowser the Hound," thought Reddy, "I'll have myself a good run, and then I'll play a prank on him so that he will lose my track."

So Reddy didn't use his eyes as he ought to have done. You see, he thought himself so smart that he had grown careless. He kept looking back to see where Bowser the Hound was, but he didn't look around to make sure that no other danger was near. It wasn't that he didn't know better, either. Granny Fox had taught him never to run without watching out in every direction. But now all Reddy could think of was what a splendid chance he had to show all the little meadow and forest people what a bold, bright fellow he was.

Blacky the Crow, sailing round and round, way up in the blue, blue sky, could see everything going on down below. He could see Reddy Fox running along the edge of the Green Forest. Reddy ran this way and that way, twisting and turning, to make his trail hard to follow. Every few minutes he stopped to chuckle as he listened to Bowser the Hound trying to pick up his scent. And Blacky the Crow saw something else. It looked to him very much like Farmer Brown's boy sitting behind a bush just ahead of Reddy, waiting to catch him.

"Reckon Reddy Fox will be meeting up with trouble right soon," muttered Blacky.

Will Reddy remember Granny Fox's training in time to get himself out of this fix he has gotten himself into?

Use **context clues** to select the best meaning for each underlined word or phrase.

1. Everyone was just about fed up with his boasting.

- A. completely enjoying
- B. completely sure of
- C. completely tired of

2. "I'll have myself a good run, and then I'll play a prank on him so that he will lose my track."

- A. favor
- B. game
- C. trick

3. So Reddy didn't use his eyes as he ought to have done.

- A. should
- B. shall
- C. shouldn't

4. But now all Reddy could think of was what a splendid chance he had to show all the little meadow and forest people what a bold, bright fellow he was

- A. dangerous
- B. wonderful
- C. new

5. But now all Reddy could think of was what a splendid chance he had to show all the little meadow and forest people what a bold, bright fellow he was

- A. glowing
- B. silly
- C. smart

6. "Reckon Reddy Fox will be meeting up with trouble right soon," muttered Blacky the Crow.

- A. I guess
- B. I don't think
- C. I wonder if

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7. "Reckon Reddy Fox will be meeting up with trouble right soon," muttered Blacky the Crow.

Use **context clues** to find another way to say the underlined phrase.

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### Answer Key

1. C
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. C
6. A
7. Accept any reasonable response, such as “getting into.”