

THE SHIP OF THE DESERT

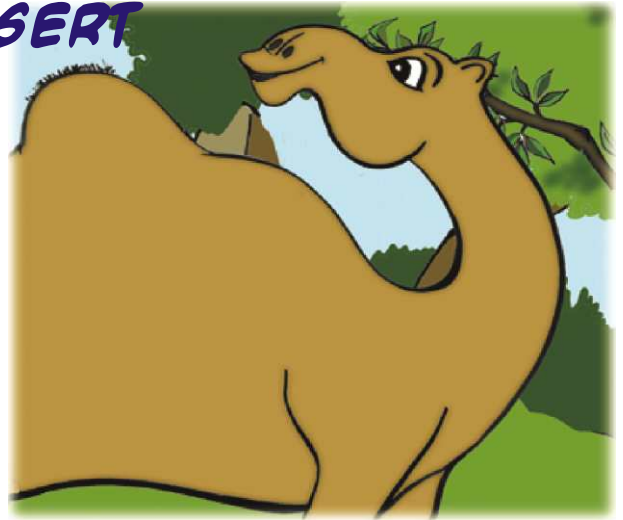
Lion (roaring): Who are you?

Camel (looking down at the Lion):
I am the Ship of the Desert. Who
are you?

Lion: Don't you know me? I'm the
King of the Forest.

Camel: Are you? Oh, I see.

Lion (frowning): You call yourself
the Ship of the Desert. How can
you be a ship, you're an animal?





Camel (*smiling*): So I am, but people call me the Ship of the Desert. I can walk across the desert even on a hot afternoon. The sand burns but it doesn't bother me.

Lion: I can't believe it.

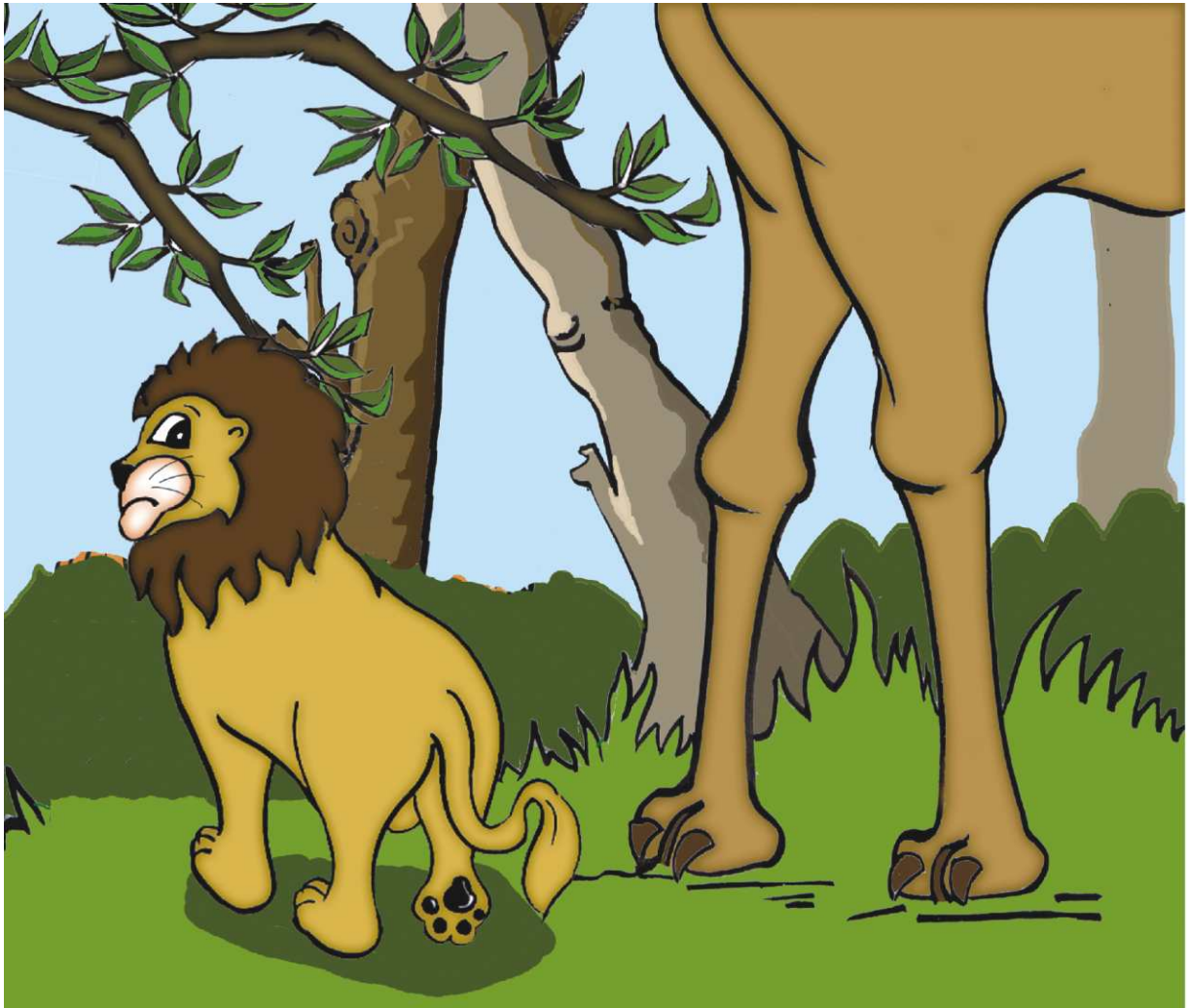
Camel: Can you walk across a desert?

Lion (*blinking*): No, I can't, but I can run in the forest.

Camel (*with disdain*): Every animal can do that. I alone can run on sand. I can run on sand at 25 kilometres an hour.

Lion (*wonderingly*): How can you do that?





Camel: Look at my feet. They are thick and padded. The hot sun does not burn them.

Lion: My feet are padded too. Thorns don't prick them and I can run 80 kilometres an hour.

Camel: That is true. You can run 80 kilometres an hour in the forest but can you run even a mile on the hot sand?

Lion: May be not but....

Camel (interrupting): And you can't live without water for a week, can you?

Lion: No, I can't. I need water everyday. But don't tell me you can do without water?

Camel: Yes, I can. There are no rivers or lakes in a desert. But that does not bother me. I can drink 200 bottles of water at a time.

Lion: Really! You must have a big stomach!

Camel (*proudly*): Yes, I have a big stomach. I can store water for a week. I can store food for two weeks even.

Lion (*showing a lot of interest*): Do you store food in your stomach?

Camel: No, I don't. I store it in my hump. I eat a lot of food at one time. Then I don't need to eat for a fortnight.

Lion: That's interesting. But what do you eat?

Camel: I eat leaves, but there are no trees in a desert.

Lion: What do you eat there?

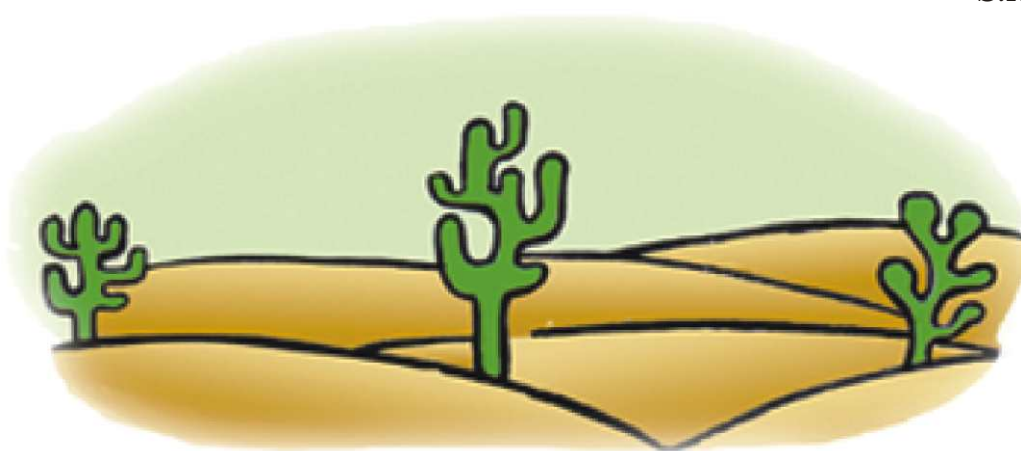
Camel: There are thorny bushes in the desert. I eat the thorns. The thorns don't prick my thick tongue.

Lion: How funny!

Camel: Mr King of the Forest, please come with me to the desert.

Lion: No, I'd better not. I can't walk on burning sand, I can't store food and water and I can't eat thorns. Good bye and good luck, Mr Ship of the Desert.

S.K. Ram



New words

Ship of the Desert, miles, King of the Forest, sand, thorns



Reading is fun



1. Why is the Camel called the Ship of the Desert?
2. For how many weeks can a camel store food in its hump?
3. What does the camel eat in the desert?
4. Choose the right answer.
 - i. Name the Ship of the Desert
 - (a) lion (c) camel
 - (b) crab (d) tiger
 - ii. Name the King of the Forest
 - (a) lion (c) monkey
 - (b) owl (d) crocodile
 - iii. The feet of the camel are
 - (a) thick and padded (c) thick and fat
 - (b) long and fat (d) thin and padded
 - iv. There are no rivers or lakes in
 - (a) plains (c) plateaus
 - (b) mountains (d) deserts
 - v. At a time a camel can drink
 - (a) 200 bottles of water (c) 100 bottles of water
 - (b) 400 bottles of water (d) 300 bottles of water
 - vi. A camel stores its food in its
 - (a) stomach (c) legs
 - (b) hump (d) lips

Word building



Make as many words as you can from within the given words.

The first one is done for you.

ROARING	<u>I</u> N	<u>R</u> AN	<u>R</u> OAR
FROWNING	_____	_____	_____
BLINKING	_____	_____	_____
WONDERINGLY	_____	_____	_____

Match the pictures with the words given below

tusk beak mane whiskers
hoof feet fin paw















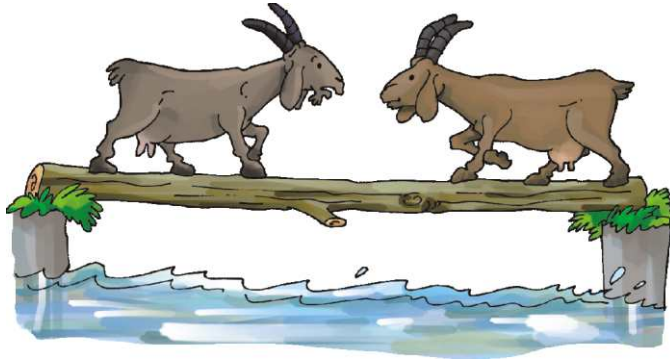




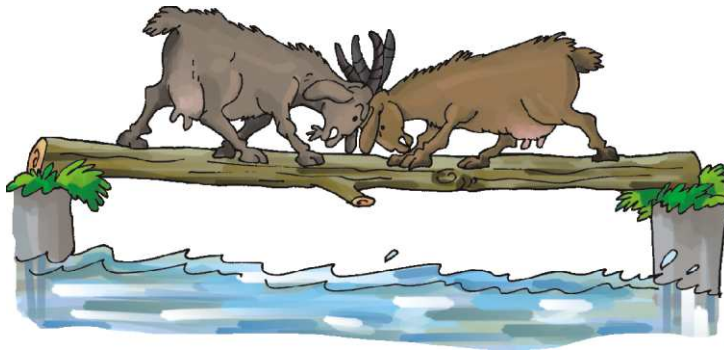
Let's write



Look at the goats in the pictures and write about them.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

Talk time



Read these words aloud, paying attention to their spellings.

i – eye

our – hour

week – weak

need – knead

in – inn

see – sea

no – know

here – hear

not – knot

eight – ate

of – off

two – too

bye – by

Now make sentences with each word.



Team time



Find out which animals live in

i. icy cold regions

ii. hot wet regions

TEACHER'S PAGE _____ UNIT X

THEMES

- Animals — Animal habitats
- Different regions
- Through this unit, introduce the class to different regions like desert areas, cold mountains, hot jungles etc. Then discuss with the children which animals are found in these places. Show the class, pictures of different animals and talk about how they are suited to their habitats, e.g. webbed feet and feathers of the duck, fur of the animals in the cold regions etc.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASSROOM TEACHING

- Read the poem with stress and intonation enacting all the animals and birds mentioned.
- Emphasise the action-words through different movements.
- Correct pronunciation of the words listed in the text may be practised like quiet/ quite.
- Also practise the words with similar sounds and different meanings. Let the children make a list and put it up on the blackboard.
- Encourage children to guess the meanings of difficult words, before you explain them.
- The class can take turns to act out the play 'The Ship of the Desert' with appropriate expressions and actions. Try to find other interesting plays for the class to enact. Masks and costumes can be added for interest. Songs like these can be created.

*Gently laughs the donkey,
At the break of day,
If you do not feed him,
This is what he'll say.
"He haw! He haw!"
This is what he'll say.*

*Sweetly chirps the birdie
At the break of day
If you do not feed her
This is what she'll say
"Tweet-tweet! Tweet-tweet!"
This is what she'll say.*

