

Name: _____

Date: _____

Inference: 3rd Grade

Remember that when you use the evidence in a text to draw a conclusion, it is called **inference**. We use **inference** when the writer does not include every single detail.

Read Aesop’s “The Lion and the Mouse” and answer the questions that follow.

Once a Lion was asleep and a little Mouse began running up and down on top of him. The Lion woke up, placed his huge paw on the Mouse, and opened his big jaws. “Wait, O King!” cried Mouse. “Forgive me, and I will never forget. I may be able to help you one of these days!” Lion laughed at the idea of Mouse being able to help him, but he lifted his paw and let Mouse go.

Several days later, Lion was caught in a trap. The hunters tied him to a tree while they looked for a way to carry the large Lion to their king. Mouse passed by, and when he saw Lion, he went to him and began to chew on the ropes.

After several minutes, Mouse said, “Was I not right, Lion?”

When Mouse wakes Lion up by running on top of him, what does Lion plan to do to Mouse? Include a detail from the story to support your answer.

Why does Lion laugh at the idea of Mouse helping him?

What might the hunters or their king plan to do with Lion?

Is Mouse able to help Lion? Include a detail from the story to support your answer.

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Answers--Inference: 3rd Grade

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Answers will vary. Students should be able to support answers with details when asked.

When Mouse wakes Lion up by running on top of him, what does Lion plan to do to Mouse? Include a detail from the story to support your answer.

Lion plans to eat Mouse. He catches Mouse with his "huge paw" and "opened his big jaws."

Why does Lion laugh at the idea of Mouse helping him?

Lions are big, powerful, and the "king" of the jungle. A mouse is small and weak compared to a lion.

What might the hunters or their king plan to do with Lion?

They might kill him and take his fur. They might put him in a zoo. (There is very little detail in the story to support any specific answer here.)

Is Mouse able to help Lion? Include a detail from the story to support your answer.

Yes. He "chews" the ropes, and he frees Lion because he says, "Was I not right, Lion?" He was right that he was able to help Lion.
