

Name _____

Belling the Cat

In a cozy little farmhouse, a group of mice lived harmoniously, but they had a constant concern - a cunning and sly cat that prowled around the house. The cat was quick and agile, making it challenging for the mice to know when it was nearby. Many mice had fallen victim to the cat's stealthy attacks.



One day, as the mice gathered for a meeting to discuss their predicament, an idea was proposed. "I have a plan," said one brave mouse. "We should put a bell around the cat's neck. That way, we can hear it coming, and we'll have enough time to scurry away before it catches us!"

The other mice were intrigued by the idea, and they agreed it could work. However, a wise old mouse spoke up, "It's a brilliant idea indeed, but who will bell the cat? It's easy to suggest, but dangerous to execute."

Silence fell over the group as they realized the truth in the wise mouse's words. The plan was perfect, but they lacked someone courageous enough to take on the perilous task of belling the cat.

Questions

1. What is the problem that the mice face in the fable "Belling the Cat"?
2. What idea is proposed during the mice's meeting to solve the problem?
3. Why do the mice find the idea of putting a bell around the cat's neck appealing?
4. Who raises a concern about the proposed plan, and what is their concern?
5. Why is it challenging to implement the plan of belling the cat?