

Name _____



The Frogs Asking for a King

Once upon a time, in a swampy marsh, the frogs lived a peaceful and democratic life. They were content with their freedom and enjoyed hopping around, governed by no one. One day, as they observed the other animals in the forest, they noticed that they were the only creatures without a king to rule over them.

Feeling envious and curious, the frogs gathered near a wise old frog named Aesop and expressed their desire for a king. They thought having a king would make them more organized and powerful like the other animals. "We want a king!" they cried out, hoping Aesop would support their plea.

Aesop, however, knew the perils of having a king and tried to warn the frogs about the potential consequences. He said, "Having a king may not bring the prosperity you seek. Unity and freedom are your strengths. A king might only bring tyranny and control."

But the frogs were determined and ignored Aesop's wise advice. They insisted on having a king and believed it would solve all their problems.

Resigned to their demands, Aesop went to the gods and relayed the frogs' request. The gods, amused by the frogs' naivety, granted their wish and sent them a large, powerful stork as their king.

The stork, being a carnivorous bird, saw the frogs as his subjects to be eaten. He began to prey upon them, snatching the poor creatures one by one with his long beak. The frogs soon realized their mistake and cried out for help, but it was too late.

Questions

1. Where did the frogs live, and how was their life governed?
2. Why did the frogs want a king, and who did they approach for help?
3. What was Aesop's warning to the frogs, and how did they respond?
4. What did the gods grant the frogs in response to their request?
5. How did the arrival of the stork as their king affect the frogs?