

Name _____ Class _____

Date _____

COOKA, THE BIRD WITHOUT WINGS

Higher-Level Thinking Comprehension Questions

Grades K-6

SUBJECT CONTENT FOCUS: Language Arts and Science

1. What is the **problem** (conflict) in the story?
2. Why is Cooka unhappy? What kinds of things do **you** think Cooka would like to explore outside of her cage?
3. Who is the **first** character in the story that Cooka meets? What does she watch them build together as a team?
4. What does the Ibis offer Cooka? Would you have stayed with the Ibis, or continued your journey of discovery?
5. Why does Cooka have to be quiet when she talks to the Barn Owl?
6. What does Cooka eat with Mr. Ringneck Snake? Do you think this is very different from the food she eats inside her cage?
7. What characters did Cooka meet in the “rippling canal?” What were the frogs doing as they sang, “clack, clack, clack, rack, rack?” Why do you suppose they were celebrating?
8. What is the **climax** (most intense moment) of the story? Who does Cooka encounter as she floats out into the middle of the canal?
9. What does one baby frog suggest to Cooka while she is stranded in the canal? Which character comes to Cooka’s rescue?
10. How does Cooka make it back to safety? What does Mrs. Red-bellied Turtle have to do in order to insure Cooka’s return home?
11. What literary device is used when the author, the “***summer rains in Loxahatchee were hitting the ground like slivers of diamonds?***”
12. List the characters that Cooka said good-bye to:
13. What is the resolution in the story? Why was Cooka happy now? If you were Cooka, would you be happy to return back home?

Answer Key: COOKA, THE BIRD WITHOUT WINGS

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1. The problem in the story is that Cooka is not happy and she wants to go outdoors and discover new things.
2. Accept students' *prediction* responses (i.e. She's bored all day just looking out her window; She's not happy just looking outdoors, etc.)
3. The first characters Cooka meets are the busy red ants. She watches them build their home together using team work.
4. The Ibis offers Cooka lunch together. (Accept students' *application* responses to question.)
5. Cooka has to be quiet when she meets the Barn Owl because her babies are sleeping.
6. Cooka eats dried up Sea grape berries with Mr. Ringneck Snake. (Accept student's *inference* responses: I bet the berries are much different from the seeds she eats in her cage, etc.)
7. Cooka meets the frogs in the rippling canal. The frogs were having a party probably celebrating that the rain was over. (Accept all students' *inference* responses.)
8. The most intense moment was when Cooka met the American Alligator head-on in the canal.
9. The baby frog suggests that the turtles will carry Cooka across the canal to safety. The Red-bellied Turtles come to Cooka's rescue.
10. Cooka makes it back to safety by climbing on the hard shell of the Re-bellied Turtle. The turtle had to paddle and paddle.
11. The literary device used by the author comparing tow different things is a **simile**.
12. The characters in the story Cooka are: the Red-bellied Turtles, the Pig Frogs, Mr. Ringneck Snake, the Barn Owl, the Ibis, the busy red ants, and of course, the American Alligator.
13. The resolution of the story is Cooka is now happy. She's happy to have made new friends, she's happy to have discovered the outdoors, and she's happy because she believes that anything is possible. (Accept students' *reflective* responses: i.e. Yes, I'd be happy to be back home, but I'd like to go back outdoors and see my friends, etc.)