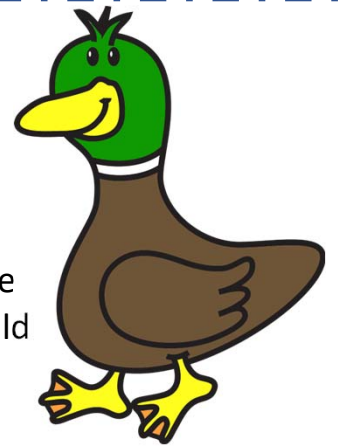


Danny Duck



In the lush green meadows of Everglade Park, there lived a young duck named Danny. Unlike his friends, Danny had never been able to fly. No matter how hard he flapped his wings, he just couldn't seem to lift off the ground. The other ducks would soar high above the trees, but Danny could only watch from below, feeling left out and a little bit sad.

One sunny morning, as Danny waddled along the bank of the sparkling lake, he stumbled upon a mysterious, ancient-looking map. It was hidden beneath a pile of colorful leaves, and as he brushed them aside, his eyes widened with excitement. The map showed a secret path leading to a hidden treasure, deep within the heart of the Everglade forest.

Danny's heart raced with the thrill of an adventure. He decided that even if he couldn't fly, he could still be an explorer. With the map tucked under his wing, he set off on his journey. The path was not easy; it twisted and turned, with obstacles at every corner. Danny had to cross rickety bridges over babbling brooks and climb steep hills that seemed to touch the sky.

Along the way, Danny met various animals who needed his help. There was a squirrel who had lost her acorns, a rabbit trapped in a hole, and a family of turtles who were upside down! Danny didn't hesitate to help them all, and in return, they gave him clues that helped him get closer to the treasure.

Finally, after a long day's trek, Danny arrived at a clearing where the sun shone brightly, showing Danny a spot on the ground. There, buried beneath a stone, was the treasure he had been searching for. It was a beautiful, golden feather. As Danny held it in his wings, he felt a warm glow spread through him.

Suddenly, with a burst of confidence, Danny flapped his wings once more. This time, something miraculous happened. He began to lift off the ground! The golden feather had given him the power to fly!

Danny soared into the sky, laughing with joy. He realized that the true treasure was not the golden feather, but the journey he had embarked on and the friends he had made along the way. From that day on, Danny was known not just as the duck who couldn't fly, but as the bravest adventurer of Everglade Park.

1. Read the passage and underline any word or sentence you struggled with.
2. Answer the questions on the following page.

Answer according to the reading passage:

- 1. What was Danny unable to do?**
 - a. swim
 - b. fly
 - c. performing

- 2. Where did Danny find the ancient looking map?**
 - a. by the sparkling lake
 - b. beneath a pile of leaves
 - c. on a tree branch

- 3. Who did Danny help on his journey?**
 - a. squirrel, rabbit and turtles
 - b. birds and fish
 - c. his other duck friends

- 4. What was the treasure Danny found?**
 - a. pile of acorns
 - b. shiny stone
 - c. golden feather

- 5. What did Danny realize the true treasure was?**
 - a. becoming an adventurer
 - b. discovering he could fly
 - c. his journey and the friends he made

Danny Duck

Open Response Questions

Open Response Questions for Thinking Skills:

1. Inferring
 2. Making Connections
 3. Summarizing
 4. Visualizing
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1. How did helping others benefit Danny on his journey?
 2. What do you think the golden feather symbolizes in the story?
 3. Explain what this story is really all about and what we can learn from it.
 4. Describe what type of duck Danny is.
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- Why do you think the author chose a duck as the main character?
 - What qualities did Danny show that made him a hero in the reading passage?
 - How did the challenges Danny face help him grow in character?
 - What lessons can we learn from Danny's adventure?