

THE SELFISH GIANT

Content and Conceptualized

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Questions and Answers

Class 5, 6, 7

1) Describe the giant's garden.

Ans: The garden was very beautiful and lovely and was filled with soft green grass. The garden was strewn with beautiful flowers that looked like stars. There were twelve peach trees, which blossomed into beautiful white and pink flowers during the spring season. The trees bore fruit during the autumn season. There were beautiful birds in the garden that sang the most melodious tunes, which were enjoyed by the children who played in the garden.

2) Where was the giant all this while? Why was he annoyed when he came back and what did he do?

Ans: The giant was out on a long visit to his friend the Cornish 'ogre' and stayed with him for seven long years. He decided to return to his castle after seven years. When he arrived at the castle, he was annoyed to see the children playing in the garden. He shouted at the children in a cold and angry tone and chased them away. He said that he would allow nobody to play in the garden but himself. He then built a high wall around the garden and put up a notice which stated that 'trespassers will be prosecuted'.

3) What did the children do once the giant had chased them away from the garden?

Ans: Once the giant had chased the children away from the garden they had nowhere to play. They tried playing on the road, but it was very rough and dusty and full of hard stones. They used to wander around the high walls of the garden and talk about the happy times they had spent playing inside the beautiful garden in the past.





4) What happened in the giant's garden during spring time?

Ans: The season of spring arrived and beautiful flowers had blossomed and birds were seen throughout the country, except for the giant's garden. Since there were no children in the garden, the flowers forgot to blossom and the birds did not care to sing anymore.

5) Who were enjoying themselves in the giant's garden? How?

Ans: The only people who were very happy and enjoyed themselves in the garden were the frost and snow. They said that spring had forgotten to visit the garden, so it was nice opportunity to live there throughout the year. The snow covered all the grass under a white cloak, while the frost painted all the trees silver. They then invited the North wind who roared all day and blew down the chimney pots. The North wind in turn invited the Hail to come and stay in the garden. The hail rattled on the roof of the castle until he broke most of the slates and ran around the garden in frenzy. He was dressed in grey and his breath was like ice.

6) Why was there always winter in the giant's garden?

Ans: In the giant's garden it was always winter. There were no summers or spring. Not even autumn visited the garden of the giant. Autumn gave fruits everywhere except in the giant's garden. Since the giant was so selfish none of the other seasons ever visited the garden. Only the snow, hail, frost and the north wind were seen dancing around in the garden.

7) What did the giant hear one morning? What happened after that?

Ans: One morning the giant awoke from bed and heard some lovely music. It was

so enchanting and pleasant that he thought it was the king's musicians passing by. It was a linnet who was singing so beautifully. It had been so long since the giant had heard a bird sing in his garden. To the giant it seemed to be the most beautiful song in the world. Soon after that the hail stopped dancing and the north wind ceased roaring and a sweet perfume came to the giant through the casement. The giant was overjoyed and thought that spring had finally visited his garden.

8) What beautiful sight did the giant see?

Ans: On hearing the linnet sing so beautifully and seeing that the hail and north wind ceased to roar, he was happy to have spring in his garden. Then the giant saw a beautiful sight. Through a small hole in the wall, the children had crept into the garden and were sitting on the branches of the trees. The trees were so happy to have the children back that they covered themselves with blossoms. The birds twittered in delight and the flowers seemed to have lifted up their heads through the green grass in laughter. The cold winter look and atmosphere of the garden had completely changed into something that was filled with love, happiness and joy.

9) Why was it still winter in the corner of the garden?

Ans: In the corner of the garden it was still winter where a little boy was standing. The boy was weeping as he was small and tiny and could not reach up to the branches of the tree. The tree in turn tried to encourage the boy to climb up those branches were still covered with snow, but could not reach its branches as he was very tiny.



10) Why did the giant's heart melt? What did the giant do? What was the reaction of the little boy?

Ans: In the corner of the garden it was still winter where a little boy was standing. The boy was weeping as he was small and tiny and could not reach up to the branches of the tree. The tree in turn tried to encourage the boy to climb up those branches were still covered with snow, but could not reach its branches as he was very tiny. The giant's heart melted to see the helplessness of the little boy who was so tiny and could not get on to the branches of the tree.

The Giant then went downstairs into the garden. The children ran away for fear of the giant. The little boy did not run away as he did not see the giant approaching. His eyes were full of tears as he was sad he could not climb up the branches of the tree. The giant quietly went behind the boy and gently put him on the branch of the tree. Immediately there were blossoms on the tree and the birds came and sang on it. The little boy was so happy that he stretched out his arms and flung them around the giant's neck and kissed him.

11) What did the giant do after the little boy kissed him?

Ans: The little boy was so happy and grateful to the giant for putting him on the branch of the tree, that he stretched out his arms and flung them around the giant's neck and kissed him. The giant was so touched by this gesture that he told the children that it was their garden and took a big axe and broke down the wall around the garden. Spring returned to the garden and the children played all day long in the garden, but the little boy who kissed the giant was nowhere to be seen. No one knew where he lived.



12) Whom did the giant miss as years went by?

Ans: Years went by and the children continued to play in the garden. The giant grew old and feeble. But he missed the little boy who filled his heart with love and kindness.

13) What marvellous sight did the giant see one winter morning?

Ans: One winter morning the giant looked out of his window and saw a marvellous sight. In one corner of the garden was a tree covered with beautiful white blossoms. Its branches were all golden and silver fruit hung from them. Beneath the branches of the tree stood the little boy he loved and who had kissed him years ago in his garden and had filled him with love and kindness.

14) Why did the giant get very angry on seeing his little friend? What as the child's reply?

Ans: On seeing the little boy under the tree with white blossoms and golden branches, the giant hastened to meet him. But on coming near, he got furious to see prints of two nails on the hands and feet of the child. He asked the child that who had dared to wound him and he would kill the person with his big sword. The child replied saying that these were wounds of love. The giant then knelt before the little child. The child went on to tell the giant that once he had allowed him to play in his garden and today the giant would be in Paradise in his garden. When the children returned to play in the garden that afternoon, they found the giant lying dead under the tree and covered with white blossoms.

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