Unit 6 - Look Before You Leap

6A Introduction

This song is based on a fable from an old storyteller named Aesop. Aesop told stories about animals, but they were more than just stories. Each story taught a lesson. These stories have been told for thousands and thousands of years! But I bet you’ve never heard them like this before.

6B Song Lyrics

Oh, yeah—a little story about Mr. Frog and his son Frog Junior. It’s a lesson for y’all. Learn how to look before you leap. Let’s go.

You better look before you leap!
Don’t jump if you close your eyes.
You better look before you leap!
’Cause where you land might be a surprise.

Do you know Mr. Frog and his son, Frog Junior?
They lived in a pond, didn’t own a computer.
They didn’t eat tacos, thought they were really bad,
They ate flies sitting on a lily pad.
The water was fresh, clean and new,
In the summer it kept them really cool.
They had an excess of water, more than enough,
Until one summer when times got tough.

It stopped raining for three whole months,
And the frogs’ pond just dried right up.
Frog Junior told his dad, “I think we should leave,”
And Mr. Frog said, “Yeah, son, I agree.
I think the same thing as you do,
We need water, so let’s move, dude.”
So they traveled, went to another place,
That wasn’t close; it was far away.
They came upon a well that was very deep,
It went far into the ground with water way down.
Frog Junior said, “Let’s jump down now!”
Mr. Frog said, “How will we get out?
What if the well goes dry?
If we were stuck down there, we would probably die.
Hey, son, here’s a lesson for free,
Listen up and repeat after me…”

You better look before you leap!
Don’t jump if you close your eyes.
Look before you leap!
’Cause where you land, there might be a surprise.
(x2)

So Mr. Frog and his son hopped on,
Jumping up and down like popcorn.
And they were getting kind of hungry; that’s the truth,
So they looked around to find some food.
They came to a road, and on the other side,
The saw a whole bunch of flies.
That might not sound great to you,
But flies are most frogs’ favorite food.

Frog Junior got excited and he started to hop,
But Mr. Frog saw a truck speeding down the block.
Would there be an accident? A mistake or a crash?
Mr. Frog grabbed his son and pulled him back.
“Ribbity-Ribbits! You could have died!
Look both ways when you cross to the other side.
Make sure that the road is clear,
There’s nothing on it, and no one’s there.

C’mon, little frog, you need to stay aware,
You need to pay attention to what’s around, you hear?”
Frog Junior said, “Dad, I know you’ll never tell me lies,
You’re smart; I mean you’re wise.
I guess I need to open my eyes,
That way I won’t be surprised.”
Mr. Frog said, “C’mon, let’s go on an adventure,
I’ll teach you to be a fly-hunting ninja.”

You better look before you leap!
Don’t jump if you close your eyes.
Look before you leap!
’Cause where you land, there might be a surprise. (x2)
6C Words Defined

**accident**

*(noun)* An **accident** is something that happens by mistake, especially if it hurts someone or damages something. Jared got into an **accident** on his bike. He hit a bump in the road and flipped over the handlebars.

**agree**

*(verb)* If you **agree** with someone, you think that what that person is saying or thinking is right. My brother and I both love corn bread. We **agree** it tastes great!

**aware**

*(adj)* To be **aware** is to know about something, or to know what’s going on around you. Mark always looks both ways before crossing the street. He tries to be **aware** of the traffic.

**clear**

*(adj)* 1. When something is **clear**, it isn’t full of things; it’s empty or clean. After she cleaned the dirty window, it was so **clear** that you could see right through it.

2. When something is **clear**, you can understand it. At first, Kelly didn’t understand the math problem. But after her teacher helped her, the answer was **clear**.

*(verb)* When you **clear** something, you make it empty or clean. Alice **cleared** off her desk. She threw things away until there was nothing on it.

**deep**

*(adj)* When something is **deep**, it goes a long way down. The scuba diver was able to walk on the floor of the ocean, even though the water was very **deep**.

**excess**

*(adj)* **Excess** is more than is needed or allowed. When it rains, the **excess** water goes down the drainpipe.

*(noun)* An **excess** of something is more than is needed. Cliff had an **excess** of pumpkins, so he started giving them away.

**fresh**

*(adj)* Something **fresh** is clean or new. The apples at the supermarket looked so nice and **fresh**.
leap
(verb) If you leap, you take a big jump. Clara leaped over her friend Walt.

travel
(verb) When you travel, you go from one place to another, usually far away. Betsy’s family loved to travel. Each summer they would plan a trip to a different place.

wise
(adj) Wise means “smart,” or thinking something through and showing good sense. Matt’s grandfather was very wise. Grandpa always helped him when he had problems.

6D Synonyms
Circle the word on the right that matches the meaning of the word or phrase on the left.

1. to think that someone is right travel agree leap
2. to take a big jump leap travel agree
3. clean or new excess fresh deep
4. smart wise deep fresh
5. more than is needed fresh wise excess

6E Fill in the Blank
Write the word in the blank so that the sentence makes sense.

1. Mr. Wilson was using his new shovel to ______________ the snow from the sidewalk.
   travel clear leap

2. Dina had to ______________ to her dad’s house each weekend. She took the train there.
   agree clear travel

3. The kids dug a ______________ hole in the backyard and buried the treasure.
   deep excess aware

4. My mom wasn’t paying attention. She ran the red light by ______________.
   excess wise accident

5. Not many people are ______________ of how hard it is to work on a farm.
   aware deep fresh
6F Connections
Each sentence has a strong connection with one of the words from the unit. Write the correct word on the line below.

1. Jayden’s family took a long car ride to visit his cousins.
   ______________________________________________________

2. Ayesha tipped over the glass. It spilled all over the floor.
   ______________________________________________________

3. It wasn’t cloudy at all. There was nothing in the blue sky but the sun.
   ______________________________________________________

4. Lucy read the label. She knew there was a lot of sugar in the soda.
   ______________________________________________________

5. After the house got a coat of paint, it looked brand-new.
   ______________________________________________________

6G Applying Meanings
Circle the letter that makes sense or answers the question.

1. Matt and Paul agree that the Yankees are the best baseball team. What does that mean?
   (A) Matt and Paul are very good at baseball.
   (B) Matt doesn’t care about baseball.
   (C) Matt thinks the Yankees are the best team. Paul thinks the Mets are the best.
   (D) Matt and Paul both think that the Yankees are the best team.

2. What part of your body do you need to use when you leap?
   (A) your legs
   (B) your nose
   (C) your ears
   (D) your teeth

3. The farmer had an excess of tomatoes. That means:
   (A) She has fewer tomatoes than she needs.
   (B) She didn’t grow any tomatoes this year.
   (C) She has more tomatoes than she needs.
   (D) She doesn’t like tomatoes.
4. You might say that Bob was **wise** if he
   (A) was very good at baseball
   (B) was good at teaching others
   (C) dressed nicely
   (D) was very good-looking

5. The water in the stream was very **deep**. What does that mean?
   (A) You would be able to walk across it.
   (B) The water is dirty.
   (C) You would have to swim across it.
   (D) The water is very cold.

**6H Reading**

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

**Two Peach Baskets and a Ball:**

**How the Game of Basketball Was Created**

In 1891, James Naismith invented the game of basketball. James was a P.E. teacher at a school in Massachusetts. He came up with the idea for the game because his students were complaining. They always seemed bored. They were tired of doing exercises like jumping jacks, sit-ups, and push-ups. He wanted to make his class more exciting. It was **clear** that he couldn’t keep asking the kids to just do the same old thing every day. Mr. Naismith was **wise**. He knew the students needed something different. He wanted to create a fun game that his students could play indoors in the winter.

Mr. Naismith didn’t come up with this game by **accident**. He read a lot about sports from around the world. With his wife, he thought a lot about how this game would be played. They **agreed** on a set of rules the players would need to follow.

After thinking about this game with his wife, Mr. Naismith got to work. He used two peach baskets and a soccer ball. He hung the baskets high off the ground. He put nine kids on each team. Then he taught the students how to play. He showed them that they could get points by **leaping** up and throwing the soccer ball into the basket. Each time a student got a basket, the ball would get stuck **deep** in the basket. The game would stop until they got the ball out. The school janitor would **travel** with a ladder across the gym. Then he would have to climb up the ladder and get the ball out of the basket. The students all had a great time playing the game. As time went on, Mr. Naismith changed the basket. He used a hoop that the ball could pass through. This made the game go much faster.
That’s how the game of basketball was created. It all started in a small gym in Massachusetts. Now basketball is a popular sport that is played all over the world!

1. Why did James Naismith invent the game of basketball?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Who helped Mr. Naismith create the game of basketball?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

3. What kind of ball did the students use?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

4. How many students were on each team?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

5. When the game was first created, what would happen each time someone scored a basket?

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
**Bonus: Crossword Puzzle**
*Solve this crossword puzzle.*

**ACROSS**

4 Empty or clean
6 A big jump is also called a ______________.
8 Something that goes a long way down
9 Peter and Amy ______________ that the brown puppy is the cutest.
10 To go someplace

**DOWN**

1 A mistake
2 Showing good sense
3 After washing the shirt, it smelled very ______________.
5 To have a lot of something
7 To know what is going on around you