

### **The deaf man and the blind man**

*in Sybella Wilkes, One day we had to run!, (London, Evans Brothers, 1994)*

Once upon a time there were two men, one deaf and one blind, who lived in the same town. One day there was fighting and the people of the town decided to move to another place. The deaf man saw everyone leaving, but didn't understand why. The blind man heard everybody leaving but couldn't follow. They were both left feeling very sad.

Some people told the blind man where to go, but he didn't know how to follow his people because he didn't have any eyes. The deaf man couldn't hear the instructions of how to follow his people. The blind man called for help, but the deaf man could not hear him. Luckily the deaf man saw the blind man. He took his hand, and using hand language they worked out where the people had gone. When they arrived in the town, the king saw them. He was amazed when he heard their story, and promised that they would never be left again.

**Batula Mohammed Ali, aged 13, Somali.**



## **The Party**

*in Sybella Wilkes, One day we had to run!, (London, Evans Brothers, 1994)*

Once upon a time, the animals decided that they would live in one group and the birds would live in another group. So, one day, the animals decided to have a party. The Zebra was the watchman. All the animals came to the party to have a happy time. Then the Bat arrived and said,

"Let me into the party, for I am an animal."

But the Zebra said, "No! We are animals because we don't have wings."

So the Bat left without going to the party.

The next day, the birds decided to have a party. The Vulture was the watchman of the bird party. The Bat heard the party from a long way away and decided he would go. When he arrived at the party he said,

"Let me into the party, for I am a bird."

But the Vulture said, "No! We are birds because we don't have teeth; you are an animal because you have teeth."

So the Bat had to leave without going to the party. The poor Bat was not an animal and not a bird, so he could never go to a party.

I say: tell the children of the world, we don't want to be bats. We want to find our place, to be either an animal or a bird so that we can be happy.

**By Abraham Marial Kiol, aged 14, Sudanese, Dinka Bor tribe.**



## **Kakuma refugee camp - the "children's camp"**

In Kakuma refugee camp, there are 25,000 children in a camp of 40,000 people. Some of these children have not seen or heard from their parents for seven years. Almost all the children are boys between seven and 15 years old, the girls having stayed behind in their villages in southern Sudan. The sad fact is that many of these boys have allegedly already served as child soldiers.

Kakuma is a very positive camp in which the boys' welfare and education is well provided for. Social workers have started a foster care project amongst the Sudanese refugees in the camp to give the boys some security. Another project to help the boys trace their parents in Sudan has also begun.

But refugee camps are not islands of peace. The political problems between the rival tribes that are fighting in Sudan are just as strong in the camp. The children feel tied to the war. For these boys, nightmares about their past experiences are made worse by their feelings of responsibility, and, sadly, many return to Sudan to fight as soon as they are old enough.

## **Tit for Tat**

*in Sybella Wilkes, One day we had to run!, (London, Evans Brothers, 1994)*

The camel and the fox were friends and thieves. A true friendship. One day, they wanted to cross the river so that they could go to the farm and steal food. The camel said to the fox, "Get on my back so that we can cross the river." And the fox crossed the river on the camel's back.

On the other side, they arrived at the farm. The fox caught the chickens and the camel ate the vegetables. The fox finished eating the chickens quickly because he had only a small stomach. When he had finished, he said to the camel, "After I have eaten my lunch I am accustomed to singing."

The camel, who had not finished eating because he had a large stomach, cried, "Don't sing! The farmer will hear you. Let me finish my lunch first." But the fox didn't listen, and started to sing. The men at the farm heard the singing and came running. The fox ran away quickly, but the camel could only run slowly. The men caught the camel and beat him until his bones started to hurt. When they let him go, he went to the river. The fox was waiting there because he couldn't swim.

The fox said, "Can I get on your back to cross the river?"

The camel replied, "Get up!" and the fox jumped on the camel's back. When the camel came to the middle of the river, where the water is very deep, he said, "After I have eaten my lunch I am accustomed to taking a bath."



The fox begged, "No, no, please don't take a bath! I will drown!"

"I'm sorry," replied the camel, "but I always take a bath after lunch." And slowly he let his backbone go down into the water.

"Help!" shouted the fox.

The camel said, "Do you feel sorry for what you did?"

"Yes! Help!" replied the fox.

The camel felt sorry for the fox. He said, "I cannot let you die," and he took the fox to the other side of the river. When they reached the riverbank, the fox and the camel both promised that they would never hurt one another again. "But," said the camel, "that was tit for tat." And they both laughed.

**by Daniel Arou Diing Arou aged 14, Sudanese, Dinka Bor tribe**



## Activity Sheet: Adjectives

Adjectives are **describing** words. They tell:

*What kind:*

**tall, thin** boy, **heavy, drenching** rain, etc.

*What colour:*

**golden** sand, **black** hair, etc.

*How many:*

**two** animals, **several** men, etc.

*Which one:*

**this** chicken, **that** farm, the **third** day, etc.

### Excercise 1

Select adjectives from the following sentences and make a list of them.

Fat, black and red feathered chickens scratched the earth, looking for insects to eat. The fox moved with quick, lithe movements and caught the first chicken. A row of tempting, green cabbages sat in the brownish earth of the vegetable patch. The thoughtless fox lifted up his head and produced a high-pitched howling noise, causing startled men to run from their tasks to find out the source of the terrible singing. The indignant farm workers gave the unfortunate camel a hard beating.

### Excercise 2

From the list of adjectives given, choose the most appropriate to fill the blanks left in the following sentences.

forgiving, sore, fast-flowing, thieving, beaten, patient, cowardly, kind, weary, deep, slow

The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ camel made his \_\_\_\_\_ way back to the river. There, by the water's edge was the \_\_\_\_\_ fox, waiting for his \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ companion. The river was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and the fox could not swim. He took for granted that he had a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ friend, and asked for a lift across the river.

### Excercise 3

Supply adjectives for each of the given nouns. Try to use a different word each time.

friends, water, lunch, song, wind, sand, tree, heat, story.



**Exercise 4**

Which word in each of the following groups is not an adjective?

gulped, tasty, enjoyable, delicious  
ponderous, lumbered, clumsy, slow  
speedily, rapid, quick, swift  
brilliant, sunshine, bright, scorching