

Progress Monitoring Probe 9

The Boy and the Scorpion: A Modern Fable

A boy and his family had recently moved to a home near the woods. To the boy, it seemed that he had moved to the Land of Ten Thousand Bugs.	13
Every day or night, there would be a new, jarring discovery. For example, the boy would be startled by a centipede crawling across the floor or a beetle clinging to the screen door. One morning, when the boy slipped a foot into his running shoe, he felt a fierce sting on his toe. He turned the shoe upside down and shook it, and out dropped an outraged scorpion that scampered away before the boy could respond.	27
After that, the boy declared war on insects and would stalk about the house, alert for any indication of a crawling creature.	30
“The only good insect is a squashed insect,” was the boy’s motto.	41
One morning, the boy awoke and was halfway down the stairs when he felt the house suddenly rise and then come crashing down. The boy was tossed about like a rag doll.	52
When he regained his footing, the boy saw that his house had completely changed. The walls were made of canvas and had no windows, a huge flap lay in the middle of the floor, and two large ropes were draped on either side of the flap. The boy realized that he was standing inside an enormous shoe.	64
Next, he saw an immense human foot entering the shoe. Terrified that he would be squashed, the boy reached up and pinched the foot with all his strength, and the foot retreated quickly. Then the boy felt the shoe being shaken. He tried to cling to one of the ropes, but the force was too great and he	76
	90
	100
	106
	117
	128
	139
	140
	150
	161
	172
	184
	195
	208
	220
	229
	239
	250
	261
	273
	287

The Boy and the Scorpion: A Modern Fable (Continued)

dropped to the floor, where he scrambled in panic under a giant bed.	299
When the boy awoke from his terrible and disturbing dream, he considered his experience and decided he had a new attitude toward insects. He saw that they meant no harm, except when they were threatened. From that time forward, when the boy found a bug in the house, he gently coaxed it into a jar and emptied the jar respectfully in the woods.	300
Moral: Before judging others, try putting yourself in their shoes.	310
	321
	332
	342
	356
	363
	372
	373

Total words: _____ — errors: _____ = words correct: _____

The Boy and the Scorpion: A Modern Fable

A boy and his family had recently moved to a home near the woods. To the boy, it seemed that he had moved to the Land of Ten Thousand Bugs.

Every day or night, there would be a new, jarring discovery. For example, the boy would be startled by a centipede crawling across the floor or a beetle clinging to the screen door. One morning, when the boy slipped a foot into his running shoe, he felt a fierce sting on his toe. He turned the shoe upside down and shook it, and out dropped an outraged scorpion that scampered away before the boy could respond.

After that, the boy declared war on insects and would stalk about the house, alert for any indication of a crawling creature. “The only good insect is a squashed insect,” was the boy’s motto.

One morning, the boy awoke and was halfway down the stairs when he felt the house suddenly rise and then come crashing down. The boy was tossed about like a rag doll.

When he regained his footing, the boy saw that his house had completely changed. The walls were made of canvas and had no windows, a huge flap lay in the middle of the floor, and two large ropes were draped on either side of the flap. The boy realized that he was standing inside an enormous shoe.

Next, he saw an immense human foot entering the shoe. Terrified that he would be squashed, the boy reached up and pinched the foot with all his strength, and the foot retreated quickly. Then the boy felt the shoe being shaken. He tried to cling to one of the ropes, but the force was too great and he

dropped to the floor, where he scrambled in panic under a giant bed.

When the boy awoke from his terrible and disturbing dream, he considered his experience and decided he had a new attitude toward insects. He saw that they meant no harm, except when they were threatened. From that time forward, when the boy found a bug in the house, he gently coaxed it into a jar and emptied the jar respectfully in the woods.

Moral: Before judging others, try putting yourself in their shoes.