

Name: _____

Date Started: _____ Date Completed: _____ Score: _____

Learning Activity Sheet
Analyzing a Story in Terms of Its Elements

A. Read the passage below. Then, fill out the story map found on the next page to help you analyze the elements of the story.

The Leopard's Secret

Once upon a time, there lived a leopard in a certain forest in Sri Lanka.

One evening, the leopard went out as usual. He looked for a deer, a pig, or even a small hare, he found nothing. He was very hungry! At last, he met a lizard.

"You shall be my dinner tonight, Lizard." The lizard said, "Sir, I am not big enough! Please let me go."

"Oh, no! A mouthful is better than nothing for someone as hungry as I!"

"But I have no sharp teeth like you; I have no strong claws like you. The strong should not kill the weak. It isn't fair!"

The leopard was now quite impatient. "The strong know only one law--'Might is right.' I have might, so I have the right to kill you."

The lizard said, "Very well. I am ready to die, but I'll die fighting!"

At this, the leopard laughed loudly. "I fight only with my equals!" he roared.

"Very well," said the lizard, "give me three months and I promise to be your equal!"

The leopard agreed. They decided to meet again at the same place when the three months were over.

Now, the lizard began to get ready for the fight. Every day, he went to the rice fields and rolled himself in the mud. Then, he washed his face and hands and sat in the sun until the mud dried on his body. He did this for three months. Thus, he became bigger and bigger and fatter and fatter, he was a giant lizard!

At the end of three months, the leopard and the lizard met again, and the fight began. The leopard sprang forward and struck the lizard with his paw again and again. At each blow, a cake of mud fell off the lizard's back, but the lizard himself was unhurt.

The lizard in turn jumped on the leopard's back. He bit the leopard all over. Blood flowed from the leopard's wounds, he could not bear the pain any longer. With a loud cry, he ran as fast as he could from the battlefield.

The poor, defeated leopard sat under a tree. He looked over his right shoulder and felt it with his paw. "The lizard bit me here," he moaned. He looked over his left shoulder and felt it with his paw. "And bit me here, and here. He bit me all over!"

- E. R. Eratne

Title

Setting:
Characters:
Plot:
I. Exposition:
II. Rising Action:
III. Climax:
IV. Falling Action:
V. Ending:
Theme:
Moral: