

DIRECTIONS: Read the poem aloud.

The Hungry Mouse

A very hungry mouse who said,
"I'll do just what I please!"
Snuck into a house one night
And stole a chunk of cheese.

He scampered down the passageway
And thinking that was that,
Was very unprepared to see
The shadow of a cat!

He dropped the cheese
And turned around,
And headed for his hole
And didn't even think about
The big cheese that he stole.

When he was finally safe at home
And telling all the mice
He couldn't help but add some girth to
The abandoned slice.

The kitty, too, became a huge
And formidable beast
To hear the brave mouse tell it
He had nearly been a feast.

His friends, they all believed him,
For they did not know he lied
And so, the not-so-brave mouse
Was allowed to keep his pride!



Name _____ **Reading Poetry**

1. What kind of attitude does the hungry mouse have in the beginning of the poem?
 - A That he deserves some cheese
 - B That he can do whatever he wants
 - C The he is braver than the other mice

2. How did he feel when he saw “the shadow of a cat”?
 - A He felt frightened
 - B He felt like fighting
 - C He felt brave

3. Did the mouse ever actually come in contact with the cat?
 - A Yes
 - B No

4. What does the word “girth” mean?
 - A The length of something
 - B The measurement around the middle of something
 - C The weight of something

5. Why do you think the mouse exaggerates when he tells the others what happened?
 - A He wants them to admire him
 - B He wants to justify why he didn’t come back with the cheese
 - C He wants them to think he was brave
 - D All of the above