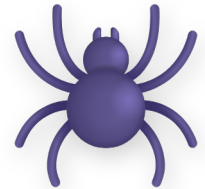




Read the fable carefully. Then answer each question below in a full sentence. Think about what the character learned and what lesson the fable is teaching.

## Anansi and the Mango Tree

Anansi the Spider loved to eat. One sunny morning, he saw a magnificent mango tree laden with the ripest, juiciest fruits he had ever seen, deep in the forest. "Ah," he thought, "these sweet mangoes are just for me!"



He quickly hatched a plan. Anansi told all the other animals that the tree was guarded by a fearsome spirit. Only those who spoke a secret chant could pick the fruit. "Only I know the magic words!" he boasted loudly.

Soon, other animals, like wise Mama Tortoise, stayed away. But a great wind began to blow, shaking the mango tree. Ripe mangoes fell to the ground, rolling far away. Anansi tried to grab them, but they rolled too fast for his little legs.



He could not pick any from the branches because he had told everyone about the "spirit." Anansi was too scared to go near the tree himself, believing his own lie. He watched sadly as the delicious mangoes were carried away. He learned that greed and trickery often leave you with nothing at all.

### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Who is the main character and where does he find himself?



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**(2) What problem or challenge did Anansi face in the story?**

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**(3) Why did Anansi decide to tell the other animals about a "fearsome spirit"?**

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**(4) Was Anansi's choice a good one? Use a detail from the fable to support your answer.**

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**(5) What lesson does this fable teach? How could this lesson help you in real life?**

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