

**Girls' High School & College, Prayagraj**  
**Worksheet 2**  
**Session: 2020-21**  
**Class 4 A-F**  
**Subject: Value Education**

**Instructions:** Parents please ensure that your child reads the lesson several times and then completes the exercises.

**Topic:Chapter-The Woodcutter and the Key**

Once upon a time a woodcutter, who had grown too old to do his job, decided it was time to find a nice house to live in which he could relax and make a home after all his years of hard work. One day, whilst walking through the forest, he came across a lovely little house by a stream. There was a goat tied up, some hens clucking around and a dog sleeping by the front door. On the doormat was printed the word 'Welcome'.

What a lucky person who lives here 'thought the woodcutter. I would love to live in a place like this, with a goat to milk, hens for eggs, a dog for company and a fresh water supply.

He looked around but he could find no sign of anyone living there at all.

When he got to the front door he could see a note pinned on it. It read 'whoever finds the key to this door shall live here happily for ever more.

Straight away the woodcutter tried the front door but it was locked. He scratched his head, realizing the key could be anywhere in the world! A voice from tree branches above said, 'you'll have to find the key. 'The woodcutter looked up and saw a tiny silver bird.' You have to puzzle it out find the key and the house will be yours.

'But how will I find the key?' asked the woodcutter, feeling bewildered and frustrated.

Just then the goat joined in. 'why don't you just break the door down. It's simple.'

'Oh yes, I could do that', said the woodcutter, who was just about to push hard on the door, when the tiny bird chimed in again. 'Don't listen to the goat, he thinks every problem can be solved by butting at it with his horns. Try to think the problem out.'

Then the hens joined in. 'That's right,' they clucked. 'Just keep your head down and look on the ground. You'll always find something if you keep looking.'

'Oh yes' said the woodcutter as he started to dig away at the earth.

Again the tiny bird interrupted. 'Don't listen to those silly hens. They think every problem can be solved by scratching around and hoping something will turn up. You'll have to do better than that. Think it out.'

'That's right, said the dog. 'It's obvious when you think about it. When I want to be let in, I just stand outside and bark. Try it, someone's bound to open the door in the end.'

The woodcutter was just about to start shouting when, once again, the tiny bird stopped him.

'Don't listen to that silly dog. He thinks every problem can be solved if he makes a loud noise. You'll have to do better than that. Think it out.'

The woodcutter sat down. 'I mustn't give up,' he said to himself. 'I've got to think it out.'

He thought about a plan. He decided it must be hidden nearby. So, he started looking on window ledges, along the garden path and through the long grass. But there was no sign of the key. He sat down again.

'if I wanted to hide a key, he said to himself,' I would hide it where it would be safe from rusting in the rain.' So, with a better plan, he walked around the house, looking for the key in places where it would stay clean and dry. He looked in the shed, under a pot, but there was no sign of the key.

He was just about to sit down again when he noticed again the word 'welcome' printed on the mat. As he read it, an idea came into his head..... 'Under a mat is safe and dry, 'he thought.

Slowly, hopefully, he lifted the mat and there peeping out was the bright, shiny key! – silver in colour just like the tiny bird. The woodcutter put the key in the lock. It turned easily and the door swung open. The woodcutter stepped inside. At last he was home.

### **Think before you act**

Summary: The story teaches us that we should think before doing anything and always consider the consequences of our act. Though the woodcutter's friends gave him different advice but he thought carefully before acting. As a result he got a reward in the form of a house.

#### **EXERCISE 1**

Answer the following questions in a line or two:

1. What do you learn from the story?
2. Can you think of a time when you hurried to do something without thinking carefully?

#### **EXERCISE 2**

Draw a picture of yourself helping someone.

**END**