Ronald the Rhino

Ronald the Rhino is so big and strong.
In the Javan forest is where he belongs.

His dusky grey skin is very well worn.
At the front of his head is a beautiful horn.

He eats fallen fruits from the damp forest floor,
But Ronald is sad; he longs for much more.

"Why am I special?" he says with a tear.
"I live by myself, I have no friends here."

"All of the animals
Have a grand trait,
Something unique
That makes them just great."

"I've got it!" he cries, with a smile on his face,
And he wiggles and jiggles all over the place.

"I'll be a leopard
With beautiful spots,
All yellowish fur
And dark brownish dots."

Ronald sets off
To hatch out his plan,
And through the dense forest
His eyes start to scan.

He soon finds some mud,
All sticky and wet.
"Great!" Ronald says.
"I'll have my spots yet!"

He starts right away,
Painting on patches,
Using his horn
To scoop mud up in batches.

As soon as he's finished, he admires his work,
But high in the trees, Leopard does lurk.

"What are you doing?"
Leopard asks with a grin.
"You've mud in great patches
All over your skin!"

"I want to be like you, with spots on my face,
To sleep in a tree; to run, leap and race!"

"You can't be a leopard, you're too big and grey.
You're a Javan rhino in every way!"

Ronald looks sad, unsure what to do.
He lets out a sigh; he's feeling so blue.

"Why am I special?" he says with a tear.
"I live by myself, I have no friends here."

"All of the animals have a grand trait.
Leopard has spots that make him just great."

"I've got it!" he cries, with a smile on his face,
And he wiggles and jiggles all over the place.

"I'll be a python, my body so strong,
With smooth patterned skin and a tongue nice and long!"

He starts right away and gets down on the ground.
He slides through the mud with a terrible sound.

But as Ronald moves,
He lets out a wail;
His body is sore
And bent round like a snail.

Out in the bushes,
Now Python can see
What the young rhino
Is trying to be.

"Why are you moving
Around like a snake?
Your back is all bent;
I saw your legs shake!"

"I want to be like you, on the rough jungle ground,
Slowly and smoothly sliding around."

"You can't be a python,
Your skin is too rough,
Your horn is too hard and
Your feet are too tough."

Ronald sits down,
His head hanging low.
What could he be?
He just doesn't know.

"Why am I special?" he says with a tear.
"I live by myself, I have no friends here.
All of the animals have a grand trait.
Python slides smoothly, which makes him just
great."

Leopard and Python see Ronald so glum,
So they cook up a plan to cheer up their chum.

"We've got it!" they say, looking down at his face.
Ronald wiggles and jiggles all over the place.

"His skin is tough and looks like great armour.
His eyes sparkle brightly – he's a real charmer!"

"His legs are so strong
And his horn is the best.
The animals love him,
As you may have guessed."

"I want to be like him!" Ronald cries out,
His eyes shining bright as his feet dance about.

So into the forest they set off to find
This mystery animal that might change his mind.

They come to a clearing,
With few trees around,
With a beautiful stream;
No one to be found.

Leopard says with a smile,
"He lives just down there."
Across the wet ground,
He approaches with care.

Ronald moves closer to look at this beast,
His heart all a flutter, his brow lined and creased.

He looks hard for a moment, his eyes flashing fast.
The water is silty with mud flowing past.

He stops as he sees it
And then gasps out loud.
Leopard and Python
Could cry, they're so proud.

He grins at the animal that he can see,

"By golly,

It's amazing,

It's wonderfully…

…Me!"

Ronald the Rhino

*Please read the Twinkl story 'Ronald the Rhino' before completing this comprehension.

Ronald the Rhino is so big and strong.
In the Javan forest is where he belongs.

His dusky grey skin is very well worn.
At the front of his head is a beautiful horn.

He eats fallen fruits from the damp forest floor,
But Ronald is sad; he longs for much more.

"Why am I special?" he says with a tear.
"I live by myself, I have no friends here.

All of the animals
Have a grand trait,
Something unique
That makes them just great."

"I've got it!" he cries, a smile creeps up his face,
And he wiggles and jiggles all over the place.

"I'll be a leopard
With beautiful spots,
All yellowish fur
And dark brownish dots."

Ronald sets off
To hatch out his plan,
And through the dense forest
His eyes start to scan.

Ronald looks sad, unsure what to do.
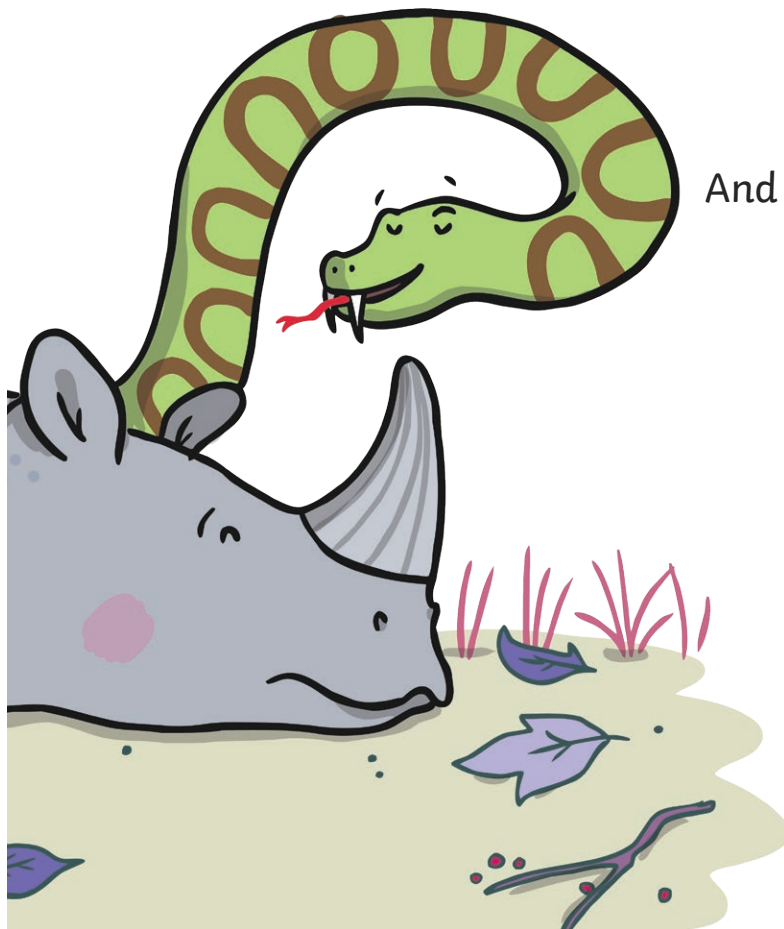He lets out a sigh; he's feeling so blue.

"Why am I special?" he says with a tear.
"I live by myself, I have no friends here."

"All of the animals have a grand trait.
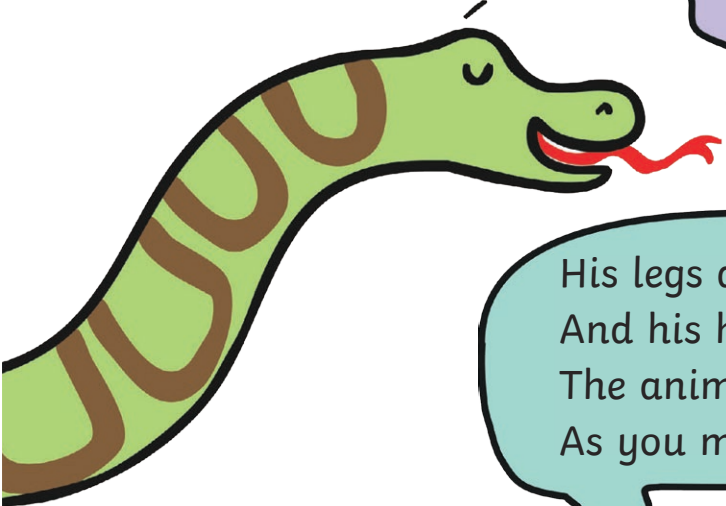Leopard has spots that make him just great."

"I've got it!" he cries, with a smile on his face,
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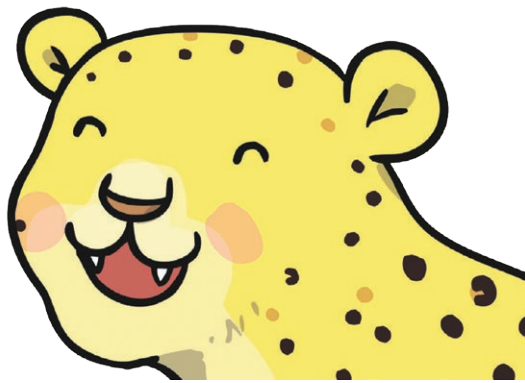With smooth patterned skin and a tongue nice and long!"

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His skin is tough and looks like great armour,
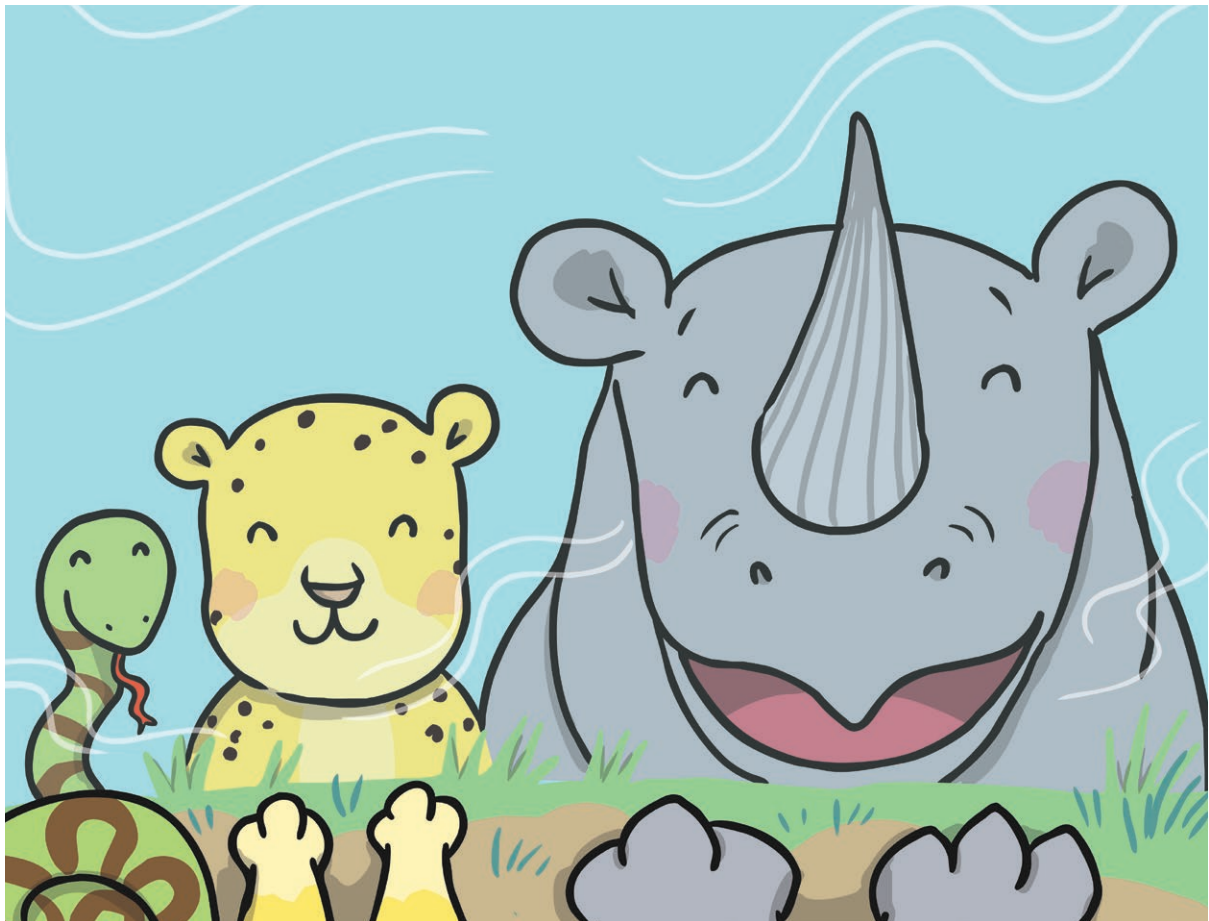His eyes sparkle brightly - he's a real charmer!

His legs are so strong
And his horn is the best,
The animals love him,
As you may have guessed.

"I want to be like him!" Ronald cries out,
His eyes shining bright as his feet dance about.

So into the forest they set off to find
This mystery animal that might change his mind.

He stops as he sees it
And then gasps out loud.
Leopard and Python
Could cry, they're so proud.

He grins at the animal that he can see,
"By golly,
It's amazing,
It's wonderfully...

...Me!"

Questions

You will need to read pages 3-4 to answer these questions.

1. Finish this sentence: "His skin is tough and looks like...."

   _____

2. What "sparkles brightly"?

   _____

3. Who is the mystery animal that Leopard and Python are describing?

   _____

4. Why did Leopard and Python feel like crying?

   _____

5. How did Ronald feel when he saw himself in the water?

   _____

6. Which animal would you like to be like out of the story? Why?

   _____

   _____

   _____

Answers

1. Finish this sentence: "His skin is tough and looks like...."
   His skin is tough and looks like great armour.

2. What "sparkles brightly"?
   His eyes sparkle brightly.

3. Who is the mystery animal that Leopard and Python are describing?
   Leopard and Python are describing Ronald the rhino.

4. Why did Leopard and Python feel like crying?
   Leopard and Python are really proud of Ronald.

5. How did Ronald feel when he saw himself in the water?
   Ronald felt happy because he realised he was special.

6. Which animal would you like to be like from the story? Why?
   Children to select an animal and give a reason. For example, I would like to be a leopard because I love to climb trees.

Questions

You will need to read pages 2-4 to answer these questions.

1. Which "grand trait" does Leopard have?

   _____

2. What does 'feeling blue' mean?

   _____

3. What does Ronald do when he is happy? Name two things.

   _____

   _____

4. How does Ronald try to be like Python?

   _____

5. "As Ronald moves he lets out a wail," how do you think Ronald is feeling?

   _____

6. Do you think Python and Leopard are Ronald's friends? Why?

   _____

7. Name two things that Ronald is upset about.

   _____

   _____

   _____

8. What does Python compare Ronald's skin to?

   _____

   _____

   _____

Answers

1. Which "grand trait" does Leopard have?
   Leopard has spots which make him just great.

2. What does 'feeling blue mean?
   'Feeling blue' means feeling sad.

3. What does Ronald do when he is happy? Name two things.
   When he is happy, Ronald smiles and wriggles and jiggles all over the place.

4. How does Ronald try to be like Python?
   He gets down on the ground and slides through the mud.

5. "As Ronald moves he lets out a wail," how do you think Ronald is feeling?
   Ronald probably "lets out a wail" because it hurts sliding along the floor, and he is sad he is not like Python.

6. Do you think Python and Leopard are Ronald's friends? Why?
   Children's own answers.

7. Name two things that Ronald is upset about.
   Two answers from the following: Ronald doesn't know why he is special. He thinks he has no friends and he lives by himself.

8. What other animal do you think Ronald could have pretended to be like? Why?
   Children to suggest another animal and give their reasons for picking it.

Questions

You will need to read pages 1-4 to answer these questions.

1. Which adjective is used to describe Ronald's horn?

   _____

2. How would people know Ronald was upset without him talking?

   _____

3. What does 'unique' mean?

   _____

4. Find and copy the phrase Ronald uses to describe Leopard.

   _____

5. What does Ronald say when he gets a good idea?

   _____

6. When Ronald is trying to be like Python, what animal is he actually compared to?

   _____

7. Where is Python when he sees Ronald trying to be like him?

   _____

8. What does Python compare Ronald's skin to?

   _____

9. Why are Leopard and Python proud of Ronald?

   _____

   _____

Answers

1. Which adjective is used to describe Ronald's horn?
    The adjective that is used is 'beautiful'.

2. How would people know Ronald was upset without him talking?
    They would know he is upset because he is crying.

3. What does 'unique' mean?
    Unique means one of a kind/no other like it.

4. Find and copy the phrase Ronald uses to describe Leopard.
    The phrase is 'with beautiful spots, with yellowish fur and dark brownish dots.

5. What does Ronald say when he gets a good idea?
    Ronald says "I've got it!" when he gets a good idea.

6. When Ronald is trying to be like Python, what animal is he actually compared to?
    It says that instead of looking like a python, he is bent round like a snail.

7. Where is Python when he sees Ronald trying to be like him?
    Python is in the bushes when he sees Ronald trying to be like him.

8. What does Python compare Ronald's skin to?
    Python compares Ronald's skin to great armour.

9. Why are Leopard and Python proud of Ronald?
    Varied answers. Leopard and Python are proud of Ronald for realising he is special too.