

The Crow and the Pitcher

Name: _____

Read the passage. Answer the questions in complete sentences.

A thirsty crow found a pitcher with a little water at the bottom. She put her beak in and could not reach it. She tipped the pitcher and it would not tip.

The crow sat on the fence and looked at the pitcher for a long while. Then she flew down, picked up a pebble, and dropped it in. The water rose a little.

She dropped in another, and another, and another. Each pebble pushed the water higher. When the water reached the top of her reach, the crow drank until she had had enough, and flew away.

Fable • 98 words

1. What was the crow's problem?

2. What made the water rise?

3. The crow sat and looked at the pitcher for a long while. Why does that matter?

4. What lesson does this fable teach?

The Crow and the Pitcher — Answer Key

1. She was thirsty but could not reach the water at the bottom of the pitcher. (*Recall*)
2. The pebbles she dropped in took up space at the bottom and pushed the water up. (*Cause and effect*)
3. She was thinking rather than giving up. The pause is when she works out the plan. (*Inference*)
4. Answers will vary. Accept: thinking beats forcing; a hard problem can be solved a little at a time. (*Theme*)