**Reading comprehension questions:**

*Below are extracts from different texts. You might want to read these independently or with a grown up. After each extract there are questions for you to answer in your Literacy book.*

**Extract 1 – Choosing a Bike:**

*Having the right bike makes every trip easier, safer and more fun, and the good news is, your bike needn’t cost a fortune.*

**Choosing a bike**

*Think about what you and your family are going to use your bikes for and where you are likely to ride most often. If you are mainly going to ride on tarmac, the bike you need will be different to if you are going to be riding on muddy tracks.*

*Here’s a list of the most popular types of bike and the sorts of cycling they’re suitable for:*

1. ***Mountain bike***

*These are great all-round bikes as they are good on the road and even better on the rough tracks. They often have knobbly tyres for extra grip and suspension to cushion the bumps. You can also add things like mudguards and a carrier rack on many models, so they’re practical too!*

1. **Hybrid bike**

*A cross between a road bike and a cross-country mountain bike, taking the most popular bits from both. It often has things like suspension in the seat and bigger wheels to make it very comfortable. A great bike for beginners and riders using tarmac roads most of the time.*

1. **Racing bike**

*A streamlined bike with very thin tyres and drop handlebars for fast riding on the road. It can be made of very light materials and have a saddle that’s only really comfortable if you’re wearing special cycling clothes. A bike that’s best for experienced cyclists.*

Taken from: NHS.uk/change4life

**Questions:**

1. **Write down one advantage of having the right type of bike.**
2. **Why are mountain bikes described as “great all-round bikes”?**
3. **What does “hybrid” mean? Use a dictionary to help you. Why is this a suitable name for this type of bike?**
4. **How are hybrid bikes like mountain bikes?**
5. **Why would you need suspension on a mountain bike but not on a racing bike?**
6. **Which type of bike owner is most likely to benefit from padded shorts and why?**
7. **Which type of bike would you choose? Explain your answer.**

**Extract 2 – Aesop’s Fables**

**The Fox and the Stork**

 *The Fox one day thought of a plan to amuse himself at the expense of the Stork, at whose odd appearance he was always laughing.
 “You must come and dine with me today,” he said to the Stork, smiling to himself at the trick he was going to play. The Stork gladly accepted the invitation and arrived in good time and with a very good appetite.
 For dinner the Fox served soup. But it was set out in a very shallow dish, and all the Stork could do was to wet the very tip of his bill. Not a drop of soup could he get. But the Fox lapped it up easily, and, to increase the disappointment of the Stork, made a great show of enjoyment.
 They hungry Stork was much displeased at the trick, but he was calm, even-tempered fellow and saw no good in flying into a rage. Instead, not long afterward, he invited the Fox to fine with him in turn. The Fox arrived promptly at the time that had been set, and the Stork served a fish dinner that had a very appetizing smell. But it was served in a tall jar with a very narrow neck. The Stork could easily get at the food with his long bill, but all the Fox could do was to lick the outside of the jar, and sniff at the delicious odor. And when the Fox lost his temper, the Stork said calmly:
 “Do not play tricks on your neighbours unless you can stand the same treatment yourself.”*

**Questions:**

1. **In your own words, explain why the Fox invited the Stork round for dinner.**
2. **Why doesn’t the Stork get angry when the Fox plays a trick on him?**
3. **How does the Stork teach the Fox a lesson?**

**Extract 3 – Aesop’s Fables**

**The Fox and the Crow** *One bright morning as the Fox was following his sharp nose through the wood in search of a bite to eat, he saw a Crow on the limb of a tree overhead. This was by no means the first Crow the Fox had ever seen. What caught his attention this time and made him stop for a second look, was that the lucky Crow held a bit of cheese in her beak.
 “No need to search any farther,” thought sly Master Fox. “Here is a dainty bite for my breakfast.”
 Up he trotted to the foot of the tree in which the Crow was sitting, and looking up admiringly, he cried, “Good-morning, beautiful creature!”
 The Crow, her head cocked on one side, watched the Fox suspiciously. But she kept her beak tightly closed on the cheese and did not return his greeting.
 “What a charming creature she is!” said the Fox. “How her feathers shine! What a beautiful form and what splendid wings! Such a wonderful Bird should have a very lovely voice, since everything else about her is so perfect. Could she sing just one song, I know I should hair her Queen of Birds.”
 Listening to these flattering words, the Crow forgot all her suspicion, and also her breakfast. She wanted very much to be called Queen of Birds. So she opened her beak wide to utter her loudest caw, and down fell the cheese straight into the Fox’s open mouth.
 “Thank you,” said Master Fox sweetly, as he walked off. “Though it is cracked, you have a voice sure enough. But where are your wits?”*

**Questions:**

1. **What does the word “sly” mean?**
2. **What is Fox doing that is sly?**
3. **Why do you think the Crow “forgot all her suspicion” about the Fox?**
4. **A moral is a lesson that can be learnt from a story. What do you think the moral is of this story?**
5. **Why do you think a fox was chosen for both fables?**