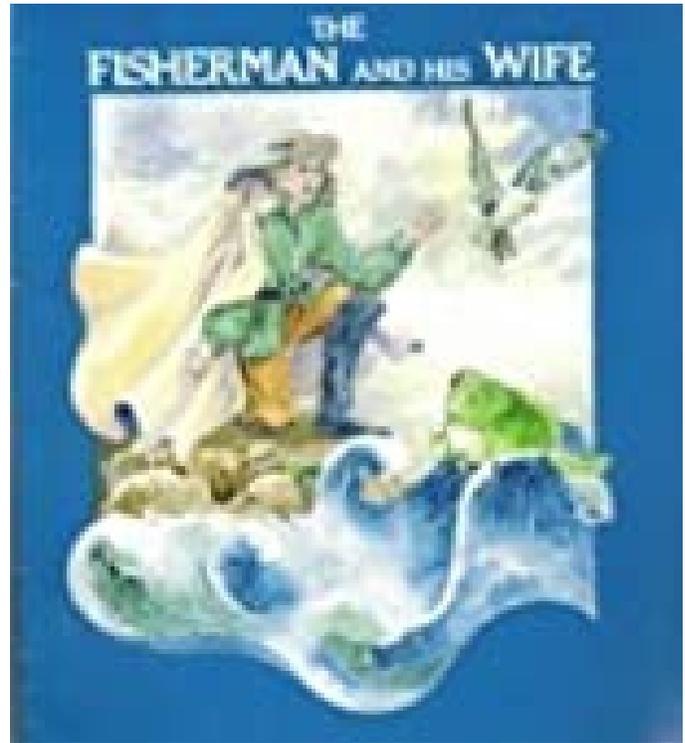




THE FISHERMAN AND HIS WIFE

SUMMARY

One day a fisherman goes out and catches a big flounder. The fish tells him it is an enchanted fish and begs him to let it go. He does, but then his wife tells him he should have asked for a wish in return. Will the fisherman's wife ever be happy with her wishes or will she always want more?



Questions:

1. How do you think the fisherman felt when he caught the big fish?
2. Was it kind of the fisherman to let the enchanted fish go? Is his wife right that he should have asked for a wish or a favor to let the fish go? Would that have made letting it go less kind?
3. Why does the fisherman wish for a nicer cottage? For himself or for his wife? Is it kind of him to make this wish for her?
4. How do you think he felt when he came home? Was he happy? How did his wife feel? Did she say she was happy?
5. How do you think the fisherman felt when his wife asked for even more? Did she need more? Was there maybe something better he could have spent the wishes on?
6. Was it kind of the fisherman's wife to keep pushing him to ask the fish for more even when he didn't want to? Did she do any work to deserve all the nice things she had? Could they have shared the nice things with others who had done hard work?
7. Should the fisherman's wife be happy with what she has? If she isn't happy, then are things going to make her happy? What makes people happy, having stuff or having friends and family who love you?
8. How do you think the fish feels every time the fisherman comes back to ask for more? How do you think the fisherman feels, having to go back to the fish over and over? Why does he keep doing it?
9. Empathy is thinking about how others feel and what they need and doing whatever you can to help them. Who in this story has empathy? Who doesn't have empathy? Can you have empathy when you're focused only on yourself?