A young shepherd boy watched over his sheep on the hillside above the town where he lived. The town was at the bottom of a very high mountain near a dark forest. Every day, the boy took the sheep up the hillside and took care of them.

Nothing exciting ever happened to the boy and his sheep. He got very lonely on the side of the mountain with nothing but sheep to talk to. He wanted someone to spend time with while he watched the sheep. The boy made up a plan.

One day, the boy began to yell that a wolf was near the sheep. He called very loudly. The people in the town came running up the hill to help him. When they got there, he was very happy. He had someone to talk with. The people were not happy because there was no wolf there that could hurt the sheep.

Three days later, the boy did the same thing. The people who climbed the hill to help him were very angry. They told the boy never to call them again when he did not need them. The people were sure that the boy would never tell the truth.

The next day, a wolf came out of the dark forest and began to chase the sheep. When the boy yelled that a wolf was after the sheep, the people of the town did not believe him. No one came to help him. They were sure he was fooling them again.

The wolf killed many of the boy’s sheep. He learned the lesson that people do not believe a liar, even when he is telling the truth.

ANALYSIS

1. What was the shepherd boy’s pattern of behavior (what did he do again and again)?
THE BOY WHO CRIED "WOLF!"

1. Why did the boy pretend that a wolf was near his sheep?
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

2. Why did the townspeople come to the hillside the first two times?
___________________________________________________________________

3. What warning did the townspeople give the boy the second time?
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

4. Why didn’t the people come the last time the boy cried for help?
___________________________________________________________________

5. What is the moral of this story?
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

6. What caused the townspeople to stop believing the boy?
___________________________________________________________________

7. Give a real-life example of someone “crying wolf” (calling for help when they really didn’t need it). What happened when they did this?
___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

8. Why is it important to tell the truth? (Remember the moral of the story.) (You may use another sheet of paper.)
Name ________________________________________

THE BOY WHO CRIED “WOLF!”

ACROSS
2. The town was near a dark ___.
4. The boy lived in the ___.
5. People do not believe a ___.
7. The boy took the ___ up the hillside and took care of them.
9. The boy watched over the sheep on the ___ above the town.
11. Nothing ___ ever happened to the boy.
14. Three days ___ the boy did the same thing.
16. The ___ were angry at the boy.
17. The boy got ___ on the side of the mountain with nothing but sheep to talk to.
18. The people ___ up the hill to help.

DOWN
1. The people did not ___ the boy when he yelled.
3. The people of the town got very ___ at the boy.
4. They did not believe the boy was telling the ___.
5. The boy learned a ___.
6. The ___ really did come out of the forest and kill the sheep.
8. The wolf began to ___ the sheep.
10. The boy was a ___ who cared for the sheep.
12. A ___ forest was near the town.
13. The boy began to ___ very loudly.
15. The boy had no one to ___ to except the sheep.
The Boy Who Cried “Wolf!” - Answer Key

1) He kept calling for help when he didn’t need it.

1) He was lonely and wanted someone to talk to. 2) because he called for help 3) never to call them again when he didn’t need them 4) They didn’t believe him. He had fooled them twice before. 5) People do not believe a liar, even when he is telling the truth. 6) OR Don’t say you have an emergency when you really don’t. 7) his lies; his false alarms 8) Answers will vary. 9) Answers will vary.

Across:
2) for 4) town 5) liar 7) sheep 9) hillside 11) exciting 14) later 16) people 17) lonely 18) climbed

Down:
1) believe 3) angry 4) truth 5) lesson 6) wolf 8) chase 10) shepherd 12) dark 13) yell 15) talk

Performance Objective Correlations:
- Analyze information
- Apply information
- Compare and Contrast ideas
- Determine the moral of the story
- Determine the sequence
- Evaluate information
- Express/justify an opinion
- Find relevant facts
- Make inferences
- Practice penmanship
- Predict Outcomes
- Read for details
- Recognize a pattern
- Summarize information
- Synthesize information
- Understand cause and effect
- Write an original sentence or paragraph