

The Bear and the Bees

Those who love [Aesop's Fables](#) might know the story of the "[The Bear and the Bees](#)". This is a fable of Italian origin and became very popular in the 16th to 19th centuries. It has been ascribed to Aesop's fables, although there is no evidence for this and thus does not appear in the [Perry Index](#).

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The Bear and the Bees[/caption]

Story:

Mr. Bear was roaming around the forest searching for something nice to eat.

He thought, "I like berries. Berries are tasty. But I like honey more. Honey is my favorite food."

He found a tree in the forest which was very low. The tree had a big honeycomb. The honeycomb seemed to be empty.

Mr. Bear thought, "Today is my lucky day. I am going to eat a lot of honey."

It was dark and the bear could not see very well. The bear went near the tree and saw only one honeybee in the beehive.

He thought, "If there is only one honeybee, I can steal the honey easily."

He went near the hive and tried to touch it and the bee gave him a sharp sting. Mr. Bear howled in anger. He slapped the tree in anger. The entire swarm of bees come out and started to attack the bear. The poor bear had to dive into the pond to save himself.

Moral of the story:

The moral of the story **The bear and the bees** is “It is wiser to bear a single injury in silence than to provoke a thousand by flying into a rage.”

Other stories which you can read

[The Dog and the Hides](#)

[The Cock, The Dog and the Fox](#)

[The Farmer and the Snake](#)

[The Farmer and the Stork](#)

[The Cat and the Birds](#)

Questions on "The Bear and the Bees"

1. Who are the main characters of the story?
2. What food does the bear like?
3. What happened at the end of the story?
4. What is the moral of the story?

Answers:

1. The main characters of the story are a bear and the bees.
2. The bear likes berries since they are tasty. He likes honey more and is his favorite food.
3. He went near the hive and tried to touch it and the bee gave him a sharp sting. Mr. Bear howled in anger. He slapped the tree in anger. The entire swarm of bees come out and started to attack the bear. The poor bear had to dive into the pond to save himself.
4. The moral of the story **The bear and the bees** is “It is wiser to bear a single injury in silence than to provoke a thousand by flying into a rage.”