

Madagascar

Activity 1

Match the correct adjective to the following characters:

1. Marty is...

- a) sharp b) innocent c) happy

2. Alex is...

- a) popular b) reserved c) shy

3. Melman is...

- a) hypochondriac b) bold c) careful

4. Gloria is...

- a) bad b) sweet c) unpleasant

5. The animals' life is...

- a) troubled b) dangerous c) quiet

Activity 2

Answer these questions:

Who are the main characters of this story?

Who is concerned about having some serious illness?

Why is Marty sad on his birthday? _____

What does he decide to do? _____

What happens later? _____

Why is Alex very angry with Marty? _____

What does Melman do accidentally? _____

Why does Alex decide to live alone? _____

What is a fossa? _____

Do you think Alex, Marty, Melman, Gloria and the penguins will return to New York? _____



Activity 3

Listen and complete the gaps:

Welcome to this tale about a group of animals who live in Central Park Zoo in New York City. Their life is nice and quiet, they generally enjoy _____, except for Marty, an innocent zebra whose dream is to live in the wild. He really would like to know what there is _____ the zoo. Well, let me tell you about this story step by step.

We have four protagonists: Marty the zebra, Alex the lion, Melman the _____ and Gloria the hippo. Alex, Marty's best friend, is the most popular in the zoo with the nickname of The King of New York. Melman is a hypochondriac giraffe who _____ stayed in the Bronx zoo and so he thinks he is a very worldly guy. In fact, he is only concerned about having some serious _____! Finally, let me introduce you to the very sweet Gloria. She thinks she is beautiful and is always full of life. She acts like a mother to Marty and a _____ to Alex.

So, what happens? It's Marty's birthday but he is sad because he wants to leave the Zoo. Someone told him about the wild and when he finds out that the zoo's _____ are planning to escape he decides to follow them. So one night he leaves the zoo and goes to the Grand Central Terminal to take the train. When his friends find out that he has escaped, they decide to look for him and get him back. At the station they catch Marty and somehow they find themselves in a cargo _____ to Kenya but the penguins succeed in taking control of the ship and changing its _____. Unfortunately, their crates open and fall in the ocean, so they are separated.

The following day they all meet again and they realize they are not in the United States anymore, but they are in the wild, on the island of Madagascar. Alex is very angry with Marty _____ him for the group's situation, so he decides to divide the island between him and them and to build a beacon. His plan is to _____ it in order to make it easier for the boat that he hopes is coming to rescue them.

However, Melman accidentally destroys the beacon and then, along with Gloria joins Marty. Soon also Alex joins his friends realising that he has been _____ to them. They go through many trials especially when Alex begins to find his natural instinct to _____. In fact, one day he loses control and attacks Marty. Considering himself dangerous for his friends he decides to live alone. When Marty goes to find Alex to convince him to try to get back to New York, he's attacked by fossas, large carnivores living in the island of Madagascar. Alex, with the help of Melman and Gloria, _____ to save Marty and they all escape.

Finally, they celebrate their return to the ship with a dinner where Alex discovers that he likes fish more than _____. What a pity they don't know the ship is out of _____!

Transcript

Welcome to this tale about a group of animals who live in Central Park Zoo in New York City. Their life is nice and quiet, they generally enjoy themselves, except for Marty, an innocent zebra whose dream is to live in the wild. He really would like to know what there is outside the zoo. Well, let me tell you about this story step by step.

We have four protagonists: Marty the zebra, Alex the lion, Melman the giraffe and Gloria the hippo. Alex, Marty's best friend, is the most popular in the zoo with the nickname of The King of New York. Melman is a hypochondriac giraffe who previously stayed in the Bronx zoo and so he thinks he is a very worldly guy. In fact, he is only concerned about having some serious illness! Finally, let me introduce you to the very sweet Gloria. She thinks she is beautiful and is always full of life. She acts like a mother to Marty and a wife to Alex.

So, what happens? It's Marty's birthday but he is sad because he wants to leave the Zoo. Someone told him about the wild and when he finds out that the zoo's penguins are planning to escape he decides to follow them. So one night he leaves the zoo and goes to the Grand Central Terminal to take the train. When his friends find out that he has escaped, they decide to look for him and get him back. At the station they catch Marty and somehow they find themselves in a cargo ship to Kenya but the penguins succeed in taking control of the ship and changing its course. Unfortunately, their crates open and fall in the ocean, so they are separated.

The following day they all meet again and they realize they are not in the United States anymore, but they are in the wild, on the island of Madagascar. Alex is very angry with Marty blaming him for the group's situation, so he decides to divide the island between him and them and to build a beacon. His plan is to burn it in order to make it easier for the boat that he hopes is coming to rescue them.

However, Melman accidentally destroys the beacon and then, along with Gloria joins Marty. Soon also Alex joins his friends realising that he has been unfair to them. They go through many trials especially when Alex begins to find his natural instinct to hunt. In fact, one day he loses control and attacks Marty. Considering himself dangerous for his friends he decides to live alone. When Marty goes to find Alex to convince him to try to get back to New York, he's attacked by fossas, large carnivores living in the island of Madagascar. Alex, with the help of Melman and Gloria, manages to save Marty and they all escape.

Finally, they celebrate their return to the ship with a dinner where Alex discovers that he likes fish more than steak. What a pity they don't know the ship is out of fuel!

Thanks to Stefania Ariu from Cagliari, Italy for kindly preparing this podcard.