

Name _____

Rikki-Tikki-Tavi

adapted from the story by Rudyard Kipling

It was after the big storm that the boy found the mongoose washed from his den. 16

The woman thought he was drowned, but the man said he was just wet and tired. 32

They took the mongoose home and soon Rikki-Tikki-Tavi (for that was his name) 47

was dry and warm. At night he rested snugly in the little boy's bed, but soft voices 64

woke Rikki-tikki. He followed them to the bathroom. Outside Nag and Nagaina, 77

the two cobras who lived in the garden, were making evil plans. They wanted to bite 94

the man, the woman, and the boy. Then they would have a quiet garden all to 110

themselves and their eggs. Rikki-tikki tingled with rage when he heard this! He 124

watched Nag slither into the bathroom and hide himself to wait until morning. Soon 138

he fell asleep. Rikki looked at the giant snake. He knew that if he didn't kill Nag at 155

the first bite the snake would fight back. And if he fought back that would be the 172

end of Rikki! He decided that he must bite Nag's head, bite and never let go! So 189

he jumped. Nag thrashed, shaking Rikki up and down, all around, but he held tight. 204

Nag banged him against the wall, but Rikki refused to let go. A hot wind knocked 220

Rikki to the floor. The fight had woken the big man and he shot Nag. The family 237

was so grateful that they were safe! But Rikki knew better. He knew that Nagaina 252

was still out there and she would be worse than five Nags. But that's another story. 268

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
– number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

Parent Tips

Students who read and reread passages orally as they receive guidance and/or feedback, become better readers. Repeated oral reading substantially improves word recognition, speed, and accuracy as well as fluency. Repeated oral reading improves the reading ability of all students throughout the elementary school years.

-- Bonnie B. Armbuster & Jean Osborn, *Put Reading First: the Research Building Blocks for Teaching Children to Read*, p.24

1. Who found Rikki-Tikki-Tavi?

- the man
- the bird
- the boy

2. Where is the setting of this story?

- a house at night
- morning in a garden
- a street in summer



3. What is the main problem in this story?

- Rikki-Tikki-Tavi is almost drowned.
- People don't like mongooses.
- The snakes want to bite the people.

4. Was Rikki-Tikki-Tavi right to kill Nag? Why or why not?