



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: OCTOBER 2025
Worksheet No: 19	Topic: THIS IS JODY'S FAWN BY MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS	Note: TO BE DONE IN PROSE NOTEBOOK

Summary

The lesson "This is Jody's Fawn," by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, emphasises gratitude and compassion. Jody's compassionate attempt to find and raise an orphaned fawn is the focus of the lesson's story. When Jody's father Penny was bitten by a rattlesnake, he slaughtered a doe and used its liver to remove poison from his body as a home treatment, and the fawn's mother was the one which saved his life. Jody felt bad about abandoning the fawn in the forest after its mother was killed. Jody wanted to talk to his father Penny about the fawn since it was bothering him. He did so, emphasising the importance of bringing the orphaned fawn home, as he believed it would be ungrateful to leave the fawn hungry and alone in the forest. Jody's father understood his son's distress and allowed him to bring the fawn home. Jody then persuaded his mother to take the fawn home with them. Jody began his journey into the forest, with Mill-wheel's assistance, in quest of the fawn. Jody looked for the fawn for a long time and finally found it. He felt like the happiest person in the world and cuddled the fawn, carrying it in his arms and he joyously went home. Penny was happy to see his kid with the fawn. Jody then fed milk to the hungry fawn. Jody's gratitude and goodwill saved a life.



Key Events

The snakebite: Jody's father, Penny, is bitten by a rattlesnake.

The rescue: To draw out the poison, Penny kills a doe (a mother deer), using its heart and liver.

The orphaned fawn: Jody is distressed by the loss of the fawn's mother and feels it is their responsibility to care for the baby deer.

Jody's plea: Jody persuades his parents that it would be wrong to leave the fawn to starve in the forest.

The journey: With help from his friend Mill-wheel, Jody ventures into the forest to find the fawn.

Finding the fawn: After a long search, Jody finds the fawn, which is initially hesitant but eventually allows Jody to carry it home.

Bringing it home: Jody carefully brings the fawn back, protecting its face from the thorns, and carries it into the house.

Caring for the fawn: He feeds the fawn milk by dipping his fingers into it, creating a tender bond between them.

Themes

Compassion and empathy: The story emphasizes Jody's pure heart and his sensitivity to the suffering of the fawn.

Responsibility and gratitude: It shows the importance of taking action to help others and fulfilling one's duty, especially when their actions have led to another's plight.

Human-animal bond: The story highlights a deep connection and kinship between Jody and the fawn, underscoring the necessity of love and compassion in humanity.

Word	Meaning
1. Drift back to	go back to
2. Dilated	enlarged
3. A close shave	a narrow escape
4. Kept your head	stayed calm in a difficult situation
5. Hemmed in	(here) caught in a situation where one can't say no
6. Acorns	small brown nuts
7. Sidled back	walked back quietly, trying not to be noticed
8. Every which way	in different directions
9. Makes a bearing	acts as a compass and helps to identify directions
10. Buzzard	a large bird like the vulture that eats the flesh of dead animals
11. Adjacent	nearby
12. Parted	moved or pushed aside
13. Quivering	shaking slightly
14. Delirious	(here) extremely excited
15. Convulsion	shiver
16. A china deer	a clay deer that is easily broken
17. Sleek	smooth and shiny
18. Hoist	pull up higher
19. Light-headed	Unable to think clearly
20. Romp	play
21. Alarm	frighten
22. Balked (Baulked)	was unwilling (to do something)

Working with the text (Page 94)

- 1. Why did Penny Baxter allow Jody to go find the fawn and raise it?**

Ans: Penny was convinced by Jody's argument that it would be ungrateful if they left the fawn in the forest to starve. He realised that Jody was right. So he allowed Jody to go find the fawn and raise it.

2. **What did Doc Wilson mean when he said, “Nothing in the world ever comes quite free”?**

Ans: Doc Wilson meant that Penny must pay back the doe whom he had killed for his own gain by bringing up her fawn.

3. **How did Jody look after the fawn, after he accepted the responsibility for doing this?**

Ans: Jody took upon the responsibility of looking after the fawn. He looked after the fawn like a mother. He carried it with utmost care and sensitivity to the house even though he was light-hearted with joy. He saved it from all the twigs and bushes that came along the way. He gave it his share of milk and even made it drink while remaining patient, as the fawn refused to drink directly from the gourd.

4. **How does Jody’s mother react when she hears that he is going to bring the fawn home? Why does she react in this way?**

Ans: When Jody's mother heard that he was going to bring the fawn home she was astonished and asked Jody which fawn he was talking about. He then told her that it was the fawn whose mother they had killed to save his father. She gasped and was not too happy with the idea. She helplessly informed him that they had nothing else to feed it so he would have to sacrifice his share of milk to feed it. She reacted this way because She was not in favour of bringing a wild animal home and she was also worried about how she would feed it.

Comprehension check. (Page 90)

1. What had happened to Jody’s father?
2. How did the doe save Penny’s life?
3. Why does Jody want to bring the fawn home?
4. How does Jody know that the fawn is a male?



Answers

1. Jody’s father had been bitten by a rattlesnake.
2. Jody’s father killed the doe or she deer. He used her heart and liver to draw out the snake’s poison. In this way, the doe saved Penny’s life.
3. Jody’s father had killed the doe. Without the mother deer, the fawn was likely to starve to death in the forest. So, Jody wanted to bring the young fawn home.
4. The spots on the fawn’s body made Jody know that it was a male.

Comprehension check. (Page 91)

1. Jody didn’t want Mill-wheel with him for two reasons. What were they?
2. Why was Mill-wheel afraid to leave Jody alone?



Answers

1. Jody didn’t want Mill-wheel to join him in the search for the fawn. The reason was that he was not sure about the fawn’s safety. He didn’t want Mill-wheel to see his disappointment.
2. Mill-wheel was afraid that Jody might be lost in the jungle.

Comprehension check. (Page 94)

1. How did Jody bring the fawn back home?
2. Jody was filled with emotion after he found the fawn. Can you find at least three words or phrases which show how he felt?
3. How did the deer drink milk from the gourd?
4. Why didn't the fawn follow Jody up the steps as he had thought it would?

Answers

1. Jody picked up the fawn into his arms and proceeded to home. After some distance, he kept the fawn down and took rest. Later on, the fawn followed him. Thus, he brought the fawn back home.
2. (i) (The fawn) shook him through with the stare of its liquid eye.
(ii) The touch of the fawn made him delirious.
(iii) As though the fawn were a China deer.
3. Jody dipped his fingers in the milk. Then he left the fawn to suck his fingers. He did it several times. Finally, the fawn drank off all the milk from the gourd.
4. The fawn didn't know how to raise its feet to climb the steps.



Creative Corner

1. Jody's Forest Role-Play

Act out the key moments — Jody asking his parents, searching the forest, finding the fawn.

Bonus: Add your own creative dialogues showing Jody's kindness and courage.



2. Draw & Describe

Make an art poster titled **“Jody and His Fawn.”**

 Show a favourite moment and write a short creative caption.
