



The Mouse And The Crow



One day in India, a crow happened to see a tiny mouse save an entire flock of doves by gnawing through a net in which a hunter had caught them. The mouse did this because because the leader of the doves was a very good friend of his.



This impressed the crow so much that later, he called down to the mouse and said that he wanted to be mouse's friend too. Mouse was startled and he shouted

A crow? My friend?
Crows eat mice!
How can *we* be friends?
Go away!



The disappointed crow replied.....

Well, if you won't be my friend I'll starve myself to death right here outside your mouse hole.

But we are enemies – nature made us that way!

the mouse protested.



The crow tried again..

Just listen. Up until now we'd never properly met each other. When old enemies meet face to face they often find the other isn't as bad as he thought. In fact sometimes they even get to like each other!

And they went on discussing their problem for ages.



In the end the mouse was so impressed by the crow's sensible argument that he decided the crow could *probably* be trusted. After that they really did become good friends. Almost every day they would bring each other little presents and spend time chatting to one another.



Then, one summer, there was A terrible drought. No rain fell and everywhere became dry and brown. The crow and the mouse became very thirsty. Crow was frightened for mouse so he set out to find water for his friend.



Mouse waited and waited and became thirstier and thirstier. He began to feel afraid that without crow to help him he would soon die.



But crow had not forgotten mouse. He found water and quickly flew back. He took mouse gently by the scruff of his neck and carried his



tiny friend to a place where there was plenty of water for everyone. Mouse and crow are still best friends and that is why being a good friend, working together and helping each other is so important.