

## The Springtime Tradition: An Easter Story with Ellie

*Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by identifying key themes and vocabulary within a narrative text.*

Read the story below carefully. Think about how the characters feel and why they are celebrating. Answer the questions in full sentences using evidence from the text.

Ellie the elephant arrived at the sunny meadow carrying a basket filled with colourful eggs. It was the time of year when the forest animals gathered to celebrate the arrival of spring. 'This tradition is about new beginnings,' Ellie told her friends, her trunk carefully placing a bright blue egg near the oak tree. The animals shared stories of the past winter and looked forward to the warmer days ahead. For the group, the celebration was not just about the eggs, but about the kindness they showed one another. Max the monkey had spent the morning calculating how many eggs were needed so every animal received exactly three. 'It is a mathematical treat!' he cheered. As the sun began to set, the animals enjoyed a picnic of forest fruits, feeling grateful for their community and the peaceful season.

*Word bank: tradition · celebration · gathering · symbolise · generosity · reflection*

**1. Why does Ellie say the tradition is about 'new beginnings'? (2 marks)**

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**2. How does Max the monkey contribute to the gathering in the meadow? (2 marks)**

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**3. Find and copy one sentence from the text that shows the animals are kind to each other. (1 mark)**

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**4. What are the animals eating at their picnic at the end of the story? (1 mark)**

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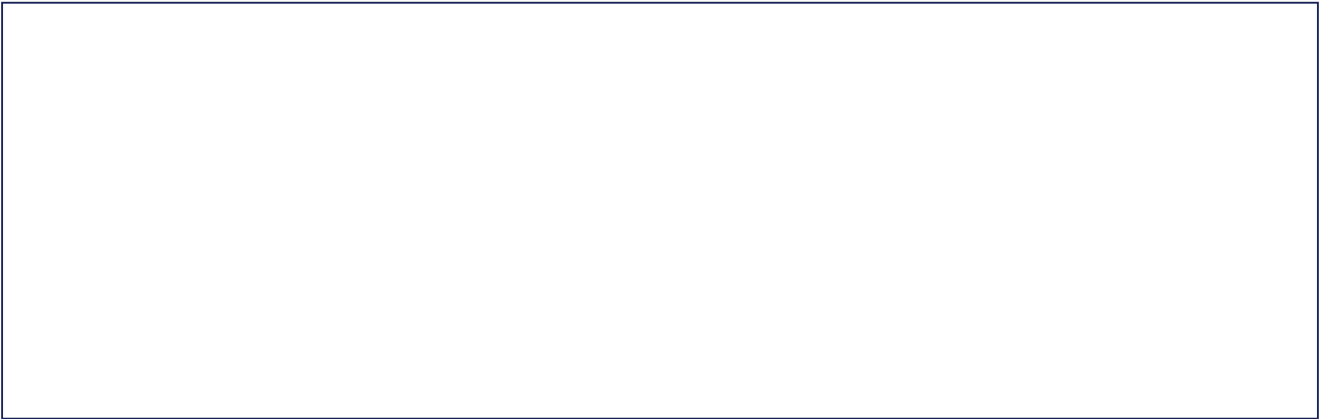
**5. In your own words, explain why the animals value this celebration. (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw a picture of the meadow gathering described in the story. Include Ellie, Max, and the colourful eggs hidden near the oak tree.



*Extension challenge: Write a short diary entry from the perspective of one of the forest animals, explaining why they are excited about the arrival of spring.*