



Exploring the Metaphors

In the Story Arthur the Farmer

What is a metaphor: A **metaphor** is when something is described as something else to help us understand it better or to give it a deeper meaning , like saying "*Your mind is a garden*" instead of just talking about thoughts.

Why do these metaphors matter? These metaphors help kids:

1. Understand **kindness** in a fun and visual way
2. Learn that their **thoughts and actions** have power
3. See that they can **make a difference** just like Arthur

Metaphors in Arthur the Farmer:

1. "Our world is a garden and your thoughts are the seeds."

What it means:

This is a metaphor comparing your thoughts to seeds and the world to a garden. Just like seeds grow into plants, your thoughts grow into actions.
For Example: *Your mind is a garden and your thoughts are the seeds.*

Good thoughts = pretty flowers

Bad thoughts = ugly weeds

2. "What you plant today, you will harvest later."

What it means:

This means what you **do today** (your actions or words) will have results **later**.
Another way of saying it: If you plant love, kindness grows. Which means, If you plant love and kindness now, you'll get good things back later! People remember how you made them feel and what you do for them.



Metaphor Discussion

Practicing reading comprehension and critical thinking

In Arthur the Farmer's story, the Author uses metaphors. See if you can try to give an explanation for what the Author is trying to say in each passage below. The first one is done for you.

1. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. Arthur the Farmer is careful about what he eats.
 - B. He tries to stay healthy and does not eat too many sweets.

Example:

- A. *Arthur is careful about what he puts in his body. (What he looks at and listens to.)*
- B. *Arthur tries to stay healthy minded. So that he doesn't indulge in too many sweets. Sweets meaning things that are not good for him.*

2. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. Arthur plants his seeds all over town.
 - B. So that his love is shared with people all around.

Give your Answer:

3. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. Arthur says, "You can make your life the way you want it to be."
 - B. "By surround yourself with good positive energy."

Give your Answer:

4. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. You should be kind to others and plant some good seeds.
 - B. Because if you don't you'll grow ugly weeds.

Give your Answer:



Metaphor Discussion

5. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. Be careful what you say, how you think and what you do.
- B. It will make a big difference, and come back to you.

Give your Answer:

6. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. Arthur says, "What you plant today you will harvest later."
- B. "So if you put out love, it will come back even greater."

Give your Answer:

7. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. When you look around your garden, what do you see?
- B. Do you have a beautiful flower or a healthy vegetable like me?

Give your Answer:

8. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. "Our world is a garden and your thoughts are the seeds."
- B. "It is up to you if you grow pretty flowers or weeds!"

Give your Answer:



Metaphor Discussion Answers

Practicing reading comprehension and critical thinking

You can rephrase these answers to help explain these metaphors in a more age-appropriate manner, to the age or grade level you're working with.

1. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. Arthur the Farmer is careful about what he eats.
 - B. He tries to stay healthy and does not eat too many sweets.

Example:

- A. *Arthur is careful about what he puts in his body. (What he looks at and listens to.)*
- B. *Arthur tries to stay healthy minded. So he doesn't indulge in too many sweets. Sweets meaning things that are not good for him.*

2. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. Arthur plants his seeds all over town.
 - B. So his love is shared with people all around.

Give your Answer:

The author is saying that Arthur spreads kindness and love everywhere he goes. Just like planting seeds in a garden.

So the "seeds" are like the nice things he does, and the "love" is what grows from them.

3. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. Arthur says, "You can make your life the way you want it to be."
 - B. "By surround yourself with good positive energy."

Give your Answer:

The author is saying that you can help make your life happy and fun by being around kind people and thinking good thoughts.

If you choose to be positive, friendly, and do the right thing, your life will be better

4. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?
 - A. You should be kind to others and plant some good seeds.
 - B. Because if you don't you'll grow ugly weeds.
 - C. Give your Answer:

The author is saying that when you say nice things and do kind actions, it's like planting good seeds you help good things grow in your life and in others'. But if you're mean or unkind, it's like planting ugly weeds, bad feelings and problems can grow. So, she is saying to be kind so your "garden" (your life and friendships) grows full of happy, healthy things!



Metaphor Discussion Answers

Practicing reading comprehension and critical thinking

5. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. Be careful what you say, how you think and what you do.
- B. It will make a big difference, and come back to you.

Give your Answer:

The author is saying that your words, thoughts, and actions are very important. If you're kind, honest, and thoughtful, good things will happen in return. But if you're mean or make bad choices, those things might come back to you too.

When you think negative thoughts, you can make bad decisions. But if you are thinking positive thoughts, it will help you to make good choices!

6. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. Arthur says, "What you plant today you will harvest later."
- B. "So if you put out love, it will come back even greater."

Give your Answer:

The author is saying that when you do something kind today, it will bring even more kindness and love back to you later. Just like planting a seed and growing a big, healthy plant!

If you share love, help others, and be a good friend, good things will grow in your life too!

7. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. When you look around your garden, what do you see?
- B. Do you have a beautiful flower or a healthy vegetable like me?

Give your Answer:

The author is asking you to think about your life and the choices you make, like your own little garden. It's a fun way to say: "Are you growing good things with your actions and words?"

If you've been kind, helpful, then your garden will grow beautiful flowers or healthy vegetables. But if you've been unkind or made poor choices, your garden might not look so nice.

8. What is the Author trying to say in this passage?

- A. "Our world is a garden and your thoughts are the seeds."
- B. "It is up to you if you grow pretty flowers or weeds!"

Give your Answer:

The author is saying that your thoughts are like tiny seeds you plant in your mind. If you think happy, kind, and positive thoughts, it's like growing pretty flowers.

If you think mean or negative thoughts, it's like growing weeds that can make you feel bad. So it's up to you what kind of "garden" you grow in your heart and mind.



Metaphor Activities

Words can make us feel good or bad. Which makes us have nice thoughts or bad thoughts. In this exercise, we will help kids recognize words and how it makes them feel.

Instructions: Cut out the words below and paste them under the heading Good Feelings or Bad Feelings.

Good Feelings

Bad Feelings

Cut out the words below

good seed

bad energy

dried fruit

shriveled grape

sunny day

rainy day

fresh fruit

wilted flower

grow kindness

plant love

ugly weeds

shared love

tall trees

brown grass

dried flowers

pretty flowers

good job

I can't

thank you

I'm sorry



Metaphor Activities

Some words make us feel happy, and some might make us feel sad or even mad. Our feelings can affect the way we behave or act. It's good to notice how words make us feel, so we can make smart and kind choices. In this activity, we'll look at words to recognize how they make us act or feel inside. Imagine someone saying them to you. How would it make you feel?

Instructions: Cut out the words below and paste them under the heading feelings Happy, Sad, Mad

Happy	Sad	Mad

You're a liar	You're cheating	Yes please	Can you help me
Thank you	I forgive You	That's ugly	Go away
We can share	I don't like you	Great job	Can I help you
It's okay	let's try again	You can do it	You ruined it
You're not nice	You're so kind	You lost	You can't do it