

Learn a Second Language

There was once a young mouse that lived in a hole in a wall. One day, the young mouse woke up from his sleep and looked out of the hole. As he looked out, a beautiful smell came to his nose. “Cheese!” the mouse said happily to himself. “I’ll go and get it now and have it for breakfast.”

But he remember his parents’ words. His parents were very wise mice and often said to their son, “Always wait before you go for a piece of cheese.” So the young mouse waited quietly. Then he heard a quiet “Miaow” and he knew the cat was out there. So he stayed in the hole and said to himself, “I’m glad that I listened to my parents and learned to wait.”

The next day, he looked out again. He put his nose out of the hole, and the beautiful smell of cheese came to his nose again. He could see the cheese. It waited only a few centimeters away. But he sat still and waited quietly. This time he did not hear any cat noises, instead a very quiet “Woof, woof.” “It’s a dog!” he thought. “If the dog is there, the cat won’t be there. I expect the dog has chased the cat away. So I’m safe. I can eat the delicious cheese now.” So the mouse ran out of the hole and started eating the cheese. He did not see the cat, which was behind him. The cat jumped, caught the poor mouse, and ate him right away.

When the cat finished her meal, she said to herself, “I’m glad that I listened to my parents and learned a second language.”