

A FABLE STORIES PICTURE BOOK

The Bird with Golden Feathers

A PANCHATANTRA STORY

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High on a forested mountain lived Sindhuka, a clever blue bird with an unusual gift. Whenever one of his feathers fell naturally to the ground, it turned into pure gold. Sindhuka thought this was perfectly ordinary. Birds cannot eat gold, so he lived peacefully and did not give it much thought.



One morning a bird hunter named Madan was walking below the tree when a feather floated down through the sunlight. The moment it touched the grass, it turned into a thin piece of solid gold. Madan stared at it. Then another feather fell, and it changed in exactly the same way.



All night Madan dreamed of a grand house, horses and silk clothes. By sunrise he had decided that his future depended on owning the bird. He came back with a hidden snare and a wooden cage, and he caught Sindhuka.



But then Madan began to worry. Sudden riches would bring merchants, tax collectors and even the king. So he changed his plan and carried Sindhuka to the royal court. King Veerendra listened carefully while Madan explained that every feather the bird dropped turned into gold.



The king was curious, but his chief minister Devraj only laughed. He was so sure of himself that he thought anything he did not know must be impossible. Madan said, “Please keep the bird for a day and watch what happens.” Testing the claim would take far less time than arguing about it.



Devraj refused. “Why waste the king’s time on something impossible?” The king trusted his minister, so he ordered the guards to let the bird go. A guard carried the cage to the palace courtyard and opened its door.



Sindhuka flew up to the stone arch above the gate. Devraj smiled, as if the ordinary flight proved him right. Then Sindhuka ruffled his wings, and one small feather drifted slowly down to the floor of the courtyard.



It touched the stone with a clear ring, and golden light flashed across the courtyard. King Veerendra picked up the heavy, cold piece of gold. Devraj admitted that he had spoken with too much confidence. The king ordered his guards to catch the bird, but Sindhuka had already flown far away.



The End

Sindhuka flew home to his mountain. From then on he looked carefully for ropes before he landed, and he chose a different tree whenever he saw a hunter. King Veerendra kept the single golden feather as a reminder that a claim is not false just because it sounds strange.

Moral: Listen, observe, test, and only then decide.

FABLE STORIES

Keep the adventure going

WATCH

Watch the animation

See Sindhuka and the royal court come to life.

PLAY

Play the puzzle

Help the King Test the Golden Feather, with video hints.

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COLOR

Color the characters

Free printable coloring pages in A4 and US Letter.

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All three are on the story page: fablestoriesworld.com/stories/the-bird-with-golden-feathers

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PRINTING

Print in landscape at “Actual size” (100%), not “Fit”, on the paper size that matches your file. Staple or bind the pages along the left edge.

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