

# Belling the Cat

an Aesop fable retold by Katie Blankshain

A *viewpoint* is what the author or character feels or thinks.

Long ago, a large family of mice lived in an old blue house. They chattered happily that they had all the food and warmth they could ever need. There was just one problem. They worried that their enemy the cat was becoming more dangerous every day.

Highlight in yellow words and phrases that show clues to the mice's viewpoint.

Explanation



Viewpoint

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## Explanation

The mice are happy, but they are worried about the cat.



Viewpoint

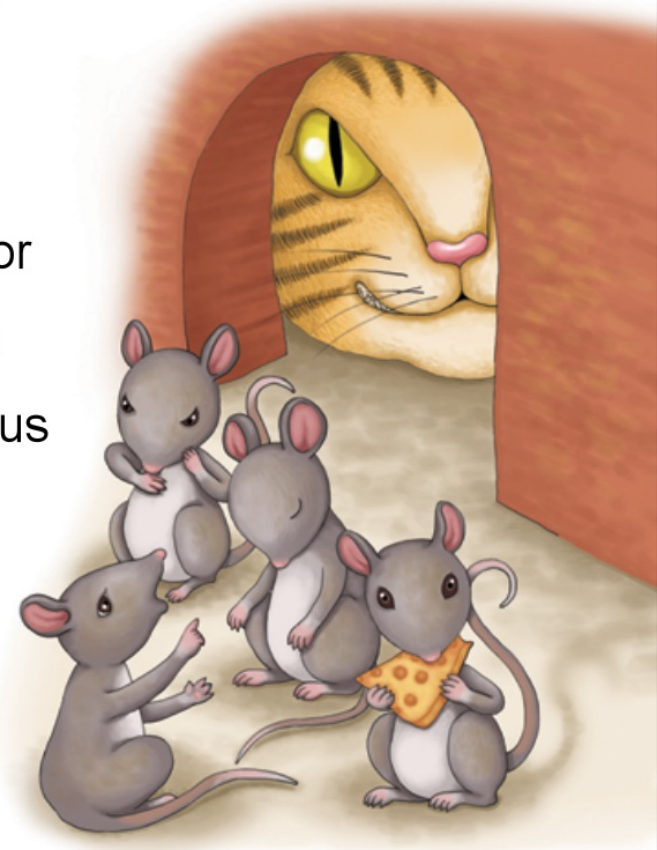
# Belling the Cat

(Continued)

Every day, the cat would tiptoe through the gray shadows, stepping lightly with her furry feet. She would slink and creep, grinning to herself as she went. She waited until she was right behind the poor mice. Then—POUNCE—she would trap one of the mice in her big orange paws. “You’ll make a delicious dinner for me tonight!” the cat would say, purring.

Highlight in green words and phrases that show clues to the cat's viewpoint.

Explanation



Viewpoint



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(Continued)

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Highlight in green words and phrases that show clues to the cat's viewpoint.

## Explanation

She thinks the mice are delicious, so she likes to catch and eat them.



Viewpoint

# Belling the Cat

(Continued)

Her cruel trick never failed, and so the cat never went hungry. She began to grow quite fat and content. Sometimes she would pop out from behind corners, baring her white, pointy teeth and sharp claws, just to scare the helpless mice away.

Highlight in pink words and phrases that show clues to the narrator's viewpoint.

Explanation



Viewpoint

# Belling the Cat

(Continued)

Her cruel trick never failed, and so the cat never went hungry. She began to grow quite fat and content. Sometimes she would pop out from behind corners, baring her white, pointy teeth and sharp claws, just to scare the helpless mice away.

Highlight in pink words and phrases that show clues to the narrator's viewpoint.

**Explanation** The cat is cruel. The mice are helpless.



Viewpoint