

## **WHY THE TORTOISE HAS A BALD HEAD**

Once upon a time, there lived Mr Tortoise. He was a clever man. He did not like to work but instead stole from other people's farm. He also stole from his neighbour's pot. He had never been caught stealing before because he was clever. He went around walking like a rich man in the village. A lot of people thought Mr Tortoise was rich. This was because his body was always fresh. Nobody had ever caught him stealing.

Tortoise liked to eat bean cake, 'akara' but he never bought one. He would go to the woman that fried bean cake 'akara' in the neighbourhood to steal some 'akara' from her. Every morning, other people always queued to buy from her.

But one day when Mr. Tortoise got there, he met a lot of people waiting to buy bean cake. He waited patiently until everybody left. Suddenly, somebody called the woman to come and attend to her baby crying inside the house. She quickly left the bean cake and rushed inside the house.

Mr. Tortoise, now left alone, stole some hot bean cakes to eat. He also packed some inside his cap and quickly wore it on his head. He ran away when he saw the woman coming. Soon after, the tortoise became restless and began to twist his neck because the hot bean cakes were hurting his head.

On his way home, he wanted to remove the cap from his head but he couldn't do this because

People were greeting and talking with him. He then decided to branch at a neighbour's house. As he was twisting his head in pain, the cap with the

bean cakes fell to the floor. People who saw this laughed at him. Mr Tortoise felt bad and was sad because his head had become bald.

## **QUESTIONS**

**Answer the following questions.**

1. What did Mr. Tortoise steal?
2. Mr. Tortoise is a clever man. [Yes] [No]
3. Who is the storyteller?
4. Mention three characters in the story.
5. Stories teach us good behavior. [Yes] [No]
6. Describe the character of Mr. Tortoise in the story.
7. Describe Mr. Salihu's character.