

Lester and the Toy Mouse

Story By: Judie Eberhardt

Lester is an old, lonely, white cat. He doesn't move very fast anymore. *I wish I could run and play like the other cats I've seen around the neighborhood* he thought to himself. But all Lester did was walk from room to room and try a new spot to take a nap.

Then one day, the Turner family got a new puppy for their little boy's birthday. The puppy, named Willy, started playing with Lester's toy mouse. Lester was trying to take a nap when all he heard was, "squeak squeak."

Lester jumped up and looked around. He didn't see anything, but decided to follow the squeaking noise. It led Lester outside to the backyard. As Willy was running and jumping with the toy mouse, Lester was getting mad because that was his toy mouse. Lester suddenly got a burst of energy and chased after Willy. He caught up to Willy and grabbed the toy mouse from him. He meowed so loudly as if to say, "That is my toy." Willy dropped the toy mouse and ran to the other side of the yard. Willy was frightened by Lester. The Turner family had a hard time trying to get Willy to come back in the house, and Lester was hoping Willy would stay outside. Lester thought, as he played with his toy back in the house, I'm not so slow and old after all!

After that day, Lester decided he wanted to play outside the way he was when he took his toy mouse from Willy. Lester went outside the next time he saw Willy. Willy was so scared of Lester that he whimpered every time Lester came near him. Lester really wanted someone to play with, so he brought his toy mouse outside and brought it over to where Willy was sitting under a tree. Willy looked at Lester and barked. Lester looked at Willy and meowed. Then, both of them looked at each other and headed for the toy mouse. All of a sudden they both started passing the toy mouse back and forth to each other. Lester and Willy had become friends, and Lester no longer felt old and lonely! *I'm glad we got Willy added to our family* thought Lester to himself.



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Who is Lester?
 - A. A dog
 - B. A hamster
 - C. A bird
 - D. A cat

2. What adjectives from the story describe Lester?
 - A. fat and black
 - B. old and white
 - C. skinny and hungry
 - D. None of the above

3. What was the puppy's name?
 - A. Willy
 - B. Wizard
 - C. Webster
 - D. Wally

4. Where was the squeaking noise coming from?
 - A. The kitchen
 - B. The backyard
 - C. The garage
 - D. The bedroom

5. How would you describe Willy after Lester took the toy mouse?
 - A. Happy
 - B. Scared
 - C. Lonely
 - D. Glad

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