

Practice reading the passage below aloud.

The Great Cheese Robbery

Raymond went back to his thinking position. When he was thinking he paced up and down, twitching his tail back and forth and curling his whiskers. Fats and I waited quietly. We could see our whiskers trembling with each breath.

"It's possible..." Raymond mumbled after what seemed to us a very long while, (It was really only about half-a- minute.) "Just possible..." He looked at Fats with his schoolteacher look. "Fats," he said, "when is it easiest to get in through a door?"

Fats thought about this for a few minute. "When it is open in the day," he finally replied.

"Exactly," Raymond agreed. "We shall break into the store through the door when it is open, in the day."

"In the broad daylight?" I asked; alarmed.

"That is where our size will be a big asset," Raymond explained.

"The customers will be busy looking at the cheese. The Enemy will be busy looking at the customers. We can quietly help ourselves to as much cheese as we can carry!"

(Extract from: *The Great Cheese Conspiracy* by Jean Van Leeuwen)

Discussion: Why is stealing considered a bad thing? What could happen to the thief if caught?

Questions

1. What was Raymond's thinking position?
2. What did Fats and the storyteller do while he thought?
3. What did Raymond ask Fats?
4. What was Fats' answer?
5. What was Raymond's plan?
6. How did the storyteller feel when he heard the plan?
7. Explain why Raymond thought their size would help.

8. What were Raymond, Fats and the storyteller?
9. Who do you think the Enemy is?
10. What did they want to get from the Enemy?