

## HIPPO AND MONKEY

Hippo was the strongest of all the animals, so he kept saying that he should be the chief. The other animals didn't want Hippo as their chief. He was too grumpy and moody. He was also lazy and just wanted to wallow in the big pool of water in the middle of the jungle.

Then Monkey had an idea to put Hippo in his place.

"I bet I can get you out of the pool, Hippo," called Monkey.

"I bet you can't," grunted Hippo. "I'm the strongest animal in the world."

"If I can get you out of the pool, then I should be chief," said Monkey.

Hippo knew he was stronger and that Monkey would never be able to pull him out of the pool.

"If you can get me out of the pool, then yes, you can be chief," laughed Hippo, "but if I get you into the pool, then you will have to be my servant - for ever!"

Hippo knew that Monkey would be his servant.

Off went Monkey to get a long, thick vine from a tree in the jungle. He threw it to Hippo.

"Hold tight to the vine," said Monkey, "but don't pull until I shout pull."

Hippo waited. Monkey ran into the trees with the other end of the vine. All the animals watched. Monkey tied the vine to a big, strong tree trunk.

## HIPPO AND MONKEY

"Ready Hippo? Pull now!" shouted Monkey. "Pull!"

"This will be easy," smiled Hippo to himself.

All day and all night Hippo pulled and pulled, while Monkey sat and ate bananas, and snoozed! Hippo was getting very tired and cross, very cross indeed.

"That monkey must be the strongest monkey I've ever known," thought Hippo. "I can't move him. I'm going to catch him and see how strong he really is."

Slowly he climbed out of the pool, to try to catch Monkey. Just as he took his last foot out of the pool, Monkey ran out of the trees.

"I got you out of the pool! I got you out of the pool! Monkey cried.

FOLK TALE FROM NIGERIA

**HIPPO AND MONKEY**  
**Questions**

1) Why did Hippo think he should be Chief?

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2) Why did the other animals not want Hippo to be chief? Because he was

(tick 2)

lazy  strong  grumpy  funny

3) What did Monkey use to pull Hippo out of the pool?

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4) Why did Hippo have to pull so hard?

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5) What was Monkey doing while Hippo was pulling?

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6) How was Hippo feeling while he was pulling?

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7) Why did Monkey win?

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8) A word to describe Monkey is? (tick 1)

grumpy  scared  clever  strong

**HIPPO AND MONKEY**  
**Answers**

1) Why did Hippo think he should be Chief?

*He was the strongest of all the animals.*

2) Why did the other animals not want Hippo to be chief? Because he was

(tick 2)

lazy  strong  grumpy  funny

3) What did Monkey use to pull Hippo out of the pool?

*a long thick vine from a tree in the jungle*

4) Why did Hippo have to pull so hard?

*The vine was tied to a big, strong tree trunk.*

5) What was Monkey doing while Hippo was pulling?

*eating bananas and snoozing*

6) How was Hippo feeling while he was pulling?

*very tired and cross*

7) Why did Monkey win?

*Hippo came out of the pool.*

8) A word to describe Monkey is? (tick 1)

grumpy  scared  clever  strong

## VOCABULARY SHEET - 'Hippo and Monkey'

Use each word in a sentence

WORD	MEANING	PART OF GRAMMAR
chief	leader	noun

Hippo was the strongest of all the animals, so he kept saying that he should be the Chief.

SENTENCE.....

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WORD	MEANING	PART OF GRAMMAR
grumpy	not happy and a bit angry	adjective

He was too grumpy and moody

SENTENCE.....

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WORD	MEANING	PART OF GRAMMAR
grunted	make short, deep sounds	verb

"I bet you can't," grunted Hippo.

SENTENCE.....

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WORD	MEANING	PART OF GRAMMAR
vine	the stem of a climbing plant	noun

Off went Monkey to get a long, thick vine from a tree in the jungle.

SENTENCE.....

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## HIPPO AND MONKEY

**CHARACTERS:** Hippo, monkey

**SETTING:** A big pool of water in the middle of the jungle

**TIME:** Day and night

Re-write the story of Hippo and Monkey

Or carry on the story from when Monkey cries, "I got you out of the pool!"

Try to use these words in your story if you can

chief

grumpy

grunted

vine

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