

# The Monkey's Heart

Upon the river bank there was a crocodile who was about to lay eggs. Like any other lady about to pop out a baby, the crocodile had an odd situation of cravings going on. One day, proving to be the loving husband he was, her husband made the mistake of asking her what she would like to eat.

“A monkey's heart” was her reply.

Her husband was confused, and lost. How on earth was he to get a monkey's heart? But being the great spouse he was, he came up with a plan. First, he destroyed the bridge the monkey usually used to cross the river.

When the monkey arrived at the bank, he stood confused. “Oh banana skins! Where on earth is the bridge?”

That's exactly the kind of question the crocodile had been waiting for. “Hey monkey! I'll help you cross the river!”

The monkey was surprised at the kind request and so he agreed. He climbed onto the crocodile's back and they began to swim across the river but as they reached the middle, the crocodile confessed to the monkey.

“I'm not really helping you cross the river. In reality my wife wants to eat a monkey's heart and I will give you over to her.”

The monkey was shocked, but he was a clever man. He knew what to do.

“I am so grateful for your honesty, but even if you give me over to your wife, she still won't get my heart, because we don't keep it in our chest.” smiled the monkey.

“What? Then where is your heart?” asked the crocodile, confused.

“We keep our hearts on the highest tops of the fig trees, safe and sound. Since you have been so honest, if you agree to not hurt me, I will quickly go and fetch my heart and toss it to you” said the monkey. The poor crocodile, who was a gullible creature, agreed. “Sounds good” he said and they began to swim back to the bank.

When they reached the bank, the monkey quickly climbed onto a tree and began to laugh. He had fooled the poor crocodile and had escaped.

“Oh no, you tricked me!” the crocodile cried angrily, but he couldn't do anything. At last, he began to swim back to his home, ready to face his angry and hungry wife.

(394 words)