

## Story 4

### The Foolish Man and the Thief

A long time ago a thief was walking along the road looking for someone to rob. He met a man that lived with his family in a small house nearby. The thief asked the man if he lived in the nearby house. The man said he did. The thief then said, "Bring me to your house. I want to stay with your family tonight."

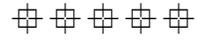
The man said to the thief, " If you go into my house, please don't steal the things that I have hidden around my house." The foolish man then told the thief all the secret hiding places and he added, "Please don't take all of my valuable things. If you take my things, I'll ask you to come back so I can take all my things back from you. Then I'll call the people to kill you."

The thief went to the foolish man's house, and took everything from him. The thief then said, "I wish that I would always have a foolish man like this to steal from."  
Lesson: Don't tell your secrets to someone you don't trust.

Story 4  
SHEEKADA AFRAAD  
NIN DOQAN AH IYO TUUG

Nin tuug ah ayaa wuxuu doon doonayey wax uu xado, dabadeedna isaga oo jid maraya wuxuu kula kulmay nin doqon ah. Markaa ninkii wuxuu waydiiyey in ay reero meelahan degan yihiin iyo inkale. Doqonkii wuxuu ugu jawaabay haa oo reerkayega ayaa degan. Markaa ayaa tuugii wuxuu waydiiyey doqonkii jidka reerka loo maro, wuxuu ku jawaabay, "jidkan toos u raac wuxuu ku gayn gurigayga, marka aad gaadho gurigayga ha xadin alaabta ii taal ee xaga iyo xagaa ku jirta, haddii aad xadana aniga ii imo waan kaala hadhi alaab tayda, haddii aan kaala hadhana dadka ayaan u yeedhi, dadkuna weyku dilli."

Tuugii wuxuu la yaabey nin aanu garaneyn oo u tilmaamaya gurugiisa isla markaana u sheegeya sirtiisa, iyo halkuu wax dhigto oo dhan. Tuugii isaga oo weli la yaaban doqonka ayuu sidii loogu tilmaamay intuu yeelay gurigii tagay oo qaatay alaabtii oo dhan. Wuxuuna yidhi, "Illaahow ha noo waayin doqon sirtiisa noo sheega."



*Dulucda sheekada:*

Sheekadani waxay tilmaan fiican inaga siinaysaa sida qofka  
aan sifiican wax ugu fiirsan ay dhibaato noocan oo kale ah  
ugu dhici karto.

Story 4  
The Foolish Man and the Thief

A Play

**Time:** A long time ago

**Place:** A small Somali house in the country.

**Characters:** Narrator  
Thief  
Foolish Man

**Narrator:** A long time ago a thief was walking along the road. He was looking around for someone to rob. He saw another man standing by his house.

**Foolish Man:** Hi! How are you?

**Thief:** Hello! I'm fine, thank you. Do you live in this house?

**Foolish Man:** Yes, I do.

**Thief:** I'm tired of walking. I'd like to rest. Let me come to your house, and stay with your family tonight.

**Foolish Man:** If you stay in my house, you must promise that you will not try to steal my things that I have hidden in different places.

**Thief:** Oh, I wouldn't do that! Where did you hide all your valuables? Tell me.

**Foolish Man:** I hid some money under my bed mat. I hid some gold in the cooking pot. I hid jewelry in a bag by the table.

**Thief:** Do you have any other hiding places?

**Foolish Man:** Yes, one more. I have silver coins hiding here under the doormat. But please don't take any of my valuables. If you do, I'll have to take them back from you.

**Narrator:** The thief went into the Foolish Man's house, and stole all his valuables.

**Thief:** Well, that was easy! I wish that everyone was as easy to rob as you! Thanks and good-bye.

The lesson: Don't tell your secrets to someone you don't trust.

## Story 4

### The Foolish Man and the Thief

#### New Vocabulary

hide/hidden  
hiding places  
meet/met  
nearby  
rob  
secrets  
steal  
thief  
trust  
valuable  
valuables

#### Background Vocabulary

trust  
trustworthy  
untrustworthy

#### Suggested Background Information, Activities and Questions

#### Before Reading

1. Talk about Somali hospitality, especially towards travelers.
2. Talk about the hazards of travel in a desert.
3. Talk about theft. Has anyone tried to steal from you or your family?  
Discuss.
4. Use new vocabulary in sentences.

#### After Reading

1. What is the main idea of the story?
2. What lessons can we learn from it?
3. Do the cloz exercise.
4. Dramatize the story with stick puppets, or assign parts using spontaneous language.
5. Play (use stick puppets).
6. Do the sequence exercise.

Story 4  
The Foolish Man and the Thief  
Cloz Activity

Fill in the missing words in the story using the following words:

back	house	secret	told
foolish	kill	secrets	valuable
hidden	lived	steal	
him	rob	thief	

A long time ago, a \_\_\_\_\_ was walking along the road looking for someone to \_\_\_\_\_. He met a man that \_\_\_\_\_ with his family in a small house nearby. The \_\_\_\_\_ asked the man if he lived in the nearby \_\_\_\_\_. The man said he did. The thief then said, "Bring me to your house." I want to stay with your family tonight." The man said to the thief, " If you go into my house, please don't \_\_\_\_\_ the things that I have \_\_\_\_\_ around my house." The foolish man then \_\_\_\_\_ the thief all the

\_\_\_\_\_ hiding places and he added, "Please don't take all of my \_\_\_\_\_ things. If you take my things, I'll ask you to come \_\_\_\_\_ so I can take all my things back from you. Then I'll call the people to \_\_\_\_\_ you." The thief went to the \_\_\_\_\_ man's house, and took everything from \_\_\_\_\_. The thief then said, "I wish that I would always have a \_\_\_\_\_ man like this to \_\_\_\_\_ from."

Story 4  
The Foolish Man and the Thief  
Cloz Activity

Fill in the missing words in the story using the following words:

**ANSWER KEY**

back	house	secret	told
foolish	kill	secrets	valuable
hidden	lived	steal	
him	rob	thief	

A long time ago, a thief was walking along the road looking for someone to rob. He met a man that lived with his family in a small house nearby. The thief asked the man if he lived in the nearby house. The man said he did. The thief then said, "Bring me to your house." I want to stay with your family tonight." The man said to the thief, " If you go into my house, please don't steal the things that I have hidden around my house." The foolish man then told the thief all the

secret hiding places and he added, "Please don't take all of my valuable things. If you take my things, I'll ask you to come back so I can take all my things back from you. Then I'll call the people to kill you." The thief went to the foolish man's house, and took everything from him. The thief then said, "I wish that I would always have a foolish man like this to steal from."

Story 4  
The Foolish Man and the Thief

Sequencing activity

Number the sentences in the order in which they appear in the story.

- \_\_\_\_\_ He met a man that lived nearby.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The man asked the thief not to steal his valuables from these secret hiding places.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A thief was looking for someone to rob.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The man told the thief where to find all his hiding places.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The thief stole all the man's valuables.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The thief asked if he could spend the night in the man's house.

## Story 4

### The Foolish Man and the Thief

#### Sequencing activity

Number the sentences in the order in which they appear in the story.

#### ANSWER KEY

\_\_\_2\_\_\_ He met a man that lived nearby.

\_\_\_5\_\_\_ The man asked the thief not to steal his valuables from these secret hiding places.

\_\_\_1\_\_\_ A thief was looking for someone to rob.

\_\_\_4\_\_\_ The man told the thief where to find all his hiding places.

\_\_\_6\_\_\_ The thief stole all the man's valuables.

\_\_\_3\_\_\_ The thief asked if he could spend the night in the man's house.