

Welland Gouldsmith School
Class 4 English Literature chapter 3

Synopsis

Long long ago, when the Islands were ruled by the sea Chief Sun and Sea an old woman named Amara she was excellent at growing and cooking vegetables. The Little village was located near the top of a steep volcanic mountain, which overlooked the Mighty Ocean. Old Amara feared the sea, as her warrior father paddled his Canoe into a raging storm and never returned. Her mother said that Chief Sea had swallowed him. Since then Amara kept away from the sea's anger, by staying on the mountain, her entire life. Old Amara, would trade her vegetables and cooking skills for a generous amount. One day, she ran out of cooking salt knowing that she could not do without it, she asked her neighbours they too did not have salt. This was so as there was no salt in the entire village. The salt trader's next visit was a month away. Old Amara decided to cook her food using sea water, in this way her meals would be more delicious .So at dawn's first light Amara wrapped her largest water gourd and started down the steep mountain trail. As she reached the edge of the ocean, Amara was frightened, she tried not to stand too near. The cool water lapped at her dusty feet. Taking permission from the Chief Sea, she filled her gourd and thanked the sea for the generosity it made .At midday, she was halfway up the mountain. As she wanted to thank the sea, turning towards the Chief Sea, she let out a scream. To her amazement Chief Sea had shrunk. She felt she had something to do with this, trembling with fear she quickly struggled down the Mountain trail and returned the sea water she had taken. As Amara was unaware of the tides and how they rise and fall. Making her way down, she walked out to the water's edge and emptied the gourd into the sea. After apologizing to the Chief Sea Amara hurried up the path as fast as she could. Unaware that the tide was in .The same structure of sand, was covered under the waves. The old woman was greatly relieved. Never did she venture down to the sea again.

Worksheet

1. Answer the following questions:

- a) What you know about Old Amara's cooking skills. How did she make a living?
- b) Why did old Amara fear the sea's anger?
- c) What happened when Amara discovered she had no salt to cook her food with?
- d) A month without salt is a serious matter! How did Amara plan to solve the problem?
- e) Why was Amara frightened?
- f) At what point of time did Amara reach the Lookout point?
- g) Describe how Amara's fear of the sea was calmed.
- h) Why was the old woman greatly relieved?

2. Fill in the blanks:

- a) _____ kept away from the sea's anger.
- b) Amara excelled at _____ and _____ vegetables.
- c) Amara's father paddled his _____ into a raging _____.
- d) Chief Sea had an _____ of salt.
- e) Using her heavy _____ stick Amara begin her return journey.
- f) Chief Sea had _____! It was bare _____ as far as she could see.
- g) Poor woman knew nothing about _____.
- h) Never did Amara _____ down to the sea.
- i) Amara hurried up the path as fast as her _____ legs could carry her.
- j) At _____ Amara reached the lookout point.

3. Make meaningful sentences with:

- a) abundance-
- b) excelled-
- c) located-
- d) savoury-
- e) survived-

4. Describe the following in few words:

- a) the mountain-
- b) the path leading to the ocean-
- c) food without salt-
- d) Janice-
- e) what the gourd was wrapped in-

5. Write short, to -the -point answers:

- a) When did this story take place?
- b) Where was Amara's village situated?
- c) What food would Amara have apart from vegetables?
- d) How did Amara keep away from the sea's anger?
- e) Why did Amara stop several times for rest?