

Leopard Gets Anansi



The grass is wet
with dew.

Bang! Leopard
has Anansi flat in
the red dirt. He
grips him with
one big foot.





'Anansi,' says
Leopard, 'I will
chew you up at
eve.' He drops
Anansi in his rocky
den. Then he sits
at the gap.

Anansi peers at the gap. It is the one way out. But Leopard sits at the gap like a big door. This is bad **news** for Anansi.



Anansi checks the den. In a crack he sees a bundle. It is selim pepper, good in a **stew**.

He sniffs it. What a strong smell! Anansi has a **shrewd** new plan.





Anansi calls out.

'Leopard, spider
with no pepper is a
bad meal. Chewy
and bad! A king
must have pepper
in his **stew**.'

Leopard's ear turns.

Anansi sends the pepper wisps
up to the gap. Sniff, sniff!
Leopard likes the new smell. But
his tail shakes. He does not trust
Anansi.



'A selim tree grows
north, three hills
north,' says Anansi.

'Is this a trick?'
asks Leopard. 'No
trick,' says Anansi.

'A few peppers
make a fine stew.'





Leopard shuts the
gap with old silk.
Then he pads
north in the grass.
Anansi grins at the
weak old silk. He
can spin a **newer**
web than that!

Anansi slips out fast. He tucks the bundle deep in the crack. Then he spins a **new** web on the gap, so fine and thin that no one can see it. He hums as he spins.



Then Anansi flees
south. He swings on
his silk from tree
top to tree top.

Leopard runs back.

Bad news for

Leopard: there is no
selim tree. It is a
fib!





Bang! Leopard hits the new web and he is stuck. The silk grips his nose and his feet. He yells and shakes, but the web holds him.

'A king must have pepper in his **stew**!' Anansi yells back with a grin.

Anansi sits in the town and eats his hot nut meal. The cook grins and adds pepper. 'A few peppers make it good!' says Anansi with a wink.





Leopard Gets Anansi

Leopard has caught Anansi at last, dragging him into a rocky den with only one narrow way out, and now he sits right across it like a big spotted door. Anansi spots a bundle of selim pepper in a crack and gets a shrewd new plan brewing. Can a clever spider talk his way past a hungry leopard guarding the only exit? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 2, Unit 12: ue, ew, u_e as in glue, new, cube), this book practices words like 'new', 'stew', 'chewy', 'dew', 'shrewd'.

Phonics Focus: <ue> <ew> <u_e>

chew, chewy, dew, few, new, newer, news, shrewd, stew

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