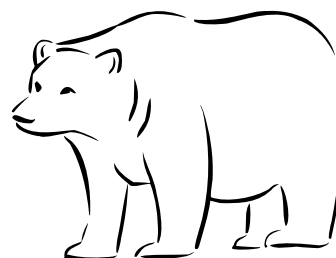


Name: _____

A Tale of Two Critters

THERE ARE TWO SIDES TO EVERY STORY...



I'VE ENJOYED FEEDING THE BIRDS ALL WINTER. Now that spring is here, I've been looking forward to having new visitors at the feeder. But the visitors who showed up weren't whom I was expecting.

The other morning I went outside to refill the feeder, but there wasn't anything left to fill. The feeder was smashed in pieces on the ground and all the seed was gone. What's more, the sturdy metal pole that the feeder hung on was bent in half!

I picked up the broken pieces and went to throw them in the trash. Another surprise! The trash barrel lid was ripped off and the barrel was on its side. Half-eaten trash was scattered everywhere. A couple of days later I heard a noise at the end of the driveway. A black bear was rummaging through the bottles and cans in my recycling bin. I grabbed pots and pans and stepped out on the porch. Clanging them together, I yelled at the bear and threw tennis balls at him to scare him away. I hope he's learned his lesson. Bears should stay in the woods where they belong.

AHHH, SPRINGTIME! I LEFT MY WINTER HOME a few days ago. After a long cold winter, it felt good to be active again. My rumbling stomach reminded me that my first order of business was to find something to eat. It's still a little early to find enough berries or grass, so I set off to see what else was available. Standing on my hind legs, I sniffed the air. Yummm ... something sure smelled good — and it wasn't too far away.

Following my nose, I moved quickly, my cubs scampering behind me. I wasn't disappointed! I found a pile of seed hanging in a nest. All I had to do was bend a stick to get at it. Then my nose led me to a container full of interesting smells. I knocked it over and ate all the goodies that fell out.

A couple of days later, I went back. The container was full again! But this time, a human made a lot of noise and threw things at me. I'll have to try again tomorrow.

Answer the questions about the stories on the next page.

Name: _____

Questions about "A Tale of Two Critters"

1 What is the problem from the person's point of view?

2 What is the problem from the bear's point of view?

3 Explain how the problem could be resolved. (Give at least one solution.)
Will your solution affect other animals in the yard?

4 Pretend you are the bear in the story. What would you say to the human?

5 Write a happy ending to the story.
