

Lulu Wants to Grow Up

Lulu was a baby eagle, an eaglet. She lived in a nest in the highest branches of the tallest tree high on a mountainside. Lulu did not want to be an eaglet. She wanted to be an eagle. Lulu said, “Tomorrow I will fly.”

Mama laughed. “Don’t be in such a hurry to grow up! You will fly when you are 12 weeks old. When your feathers change from gray to brown, you can leave the nest.”

A few days later, Lulu was balancing on the edge of the nest. Suddenly, she slipped. Lulu tumbled down. She got caught on a branch far below.

Slowly, Lulu pulled herself up from branch to branch to the top of the tree. Just then, Mama swooped in from a hunt for food. She grabbed Lulu gently with her claws and dropped her softly into the nest.

Lulu said, “Oh Mama, I don’t think I should be in such a hurry to grow up. I’ll just stay in our nest until my feathers turn brown and my wings are strong.”

“What a smart idea!” Mama said as she hugged Lulu tightly.

Skill: You’ve just read the beginning of the story. What important things have happened so far?

Strategy: This ends the middle of the story. What things could you list in a graphic organizer for the beginning and the middle of the story?