

## The Spider And The Ant

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A strong wind blew a poor, tiny ant into the web of a big, black spider.

"Ho-ho-ho," the fat spider laughed wickedly. "Now, my busy ant, you will rest forever in my stomach."

The little red ant trembled in fear. "Please, kind sir, spare me," it begged for its life.

"If you can give me two ants in exchange of yourself, I will let you go," said the spider, trying to be kind for once in his life.

"Yes, sir," answered the tiny ant, "If you will let me go, I shall drop a grain of sugar near your web. That will attract many ants to your home and you can pounce on all of them."

"Then, what do you want me to do, Mother?" asked Josefina who was beginning to see her mother's point.

"I want you to change your mind about studying. Study more diligently and don't be afraid to struggle. If after you have struggled, still you fail, then don't give up. Try again," advised the mother.

Pick out the correct answers:

1. Josefina's mother taught her to be (kind, persevering, down-hearted).

2. "There is no gain without pain" mean:

- (a) Sell the goods at a high price.
- (b) He who does not work shall not eat.
- (c) Be kind to others.

"Very well," agreed the spider and he showed the ant how to get out of his web.

The ant dropped the grain of sugar near the web as he had promised. Soon many ants were gathered about the spot. The spider watched carefully for his opportunity. Then without warning it descended upon the numerous ants.

Alas, for the spider! The ants suddenly swarmed over his fat black body. More and more ants came to help their brothers. The tiny ant watching nearby saw the spider being conquered. "His greed caused his death," the ant said.

