

<b>INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT PRIMARY SECTION</b>	
<b>Story No. 5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>Name:</b>
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## **The Hidden Treasure**

Once, there was an old man who had four sons. All four of them were very lazy. One day, the old man fell sick and was counting his last days in bed. He worried a lot about his sons' future as the young men hesitated a lot to work. The sons believed that luck would favour them. The old man's health deteriorated every day and he decided to talk to his sons about their future. However, his sons did not listen to him. Finally, the old man decided to play a trick to let his sons realise the importance of work. He called all his sons and let them sit near him on his bed. He said that he had a treasure box with gold coins and expensive gems for them. He wanted them to share the treasure equally amongst themselves. The young men were very happy and asked where his father had placed the treasure. The old man replied, "I cannot exactly remember the place where I have hidden the treasure. However, the treasure box is buried in our land. I'm really not sure about the place where I have hidden the treasure box." Even though the lazy young sons were happy, they were sad that the old man had forgotten the place where the treasure was hidden. After a few days, the old man died. The sons decided to dig the land to find the treasure box. They worked very hard and dug their land. They could not find any treasure box in the land. Finally, they decided to dig a spot in their land that was a bit different from the rest of the area. The sons believed that the treasure was buried in that spot. They dug the specific spot deeply but got nothing but water. A passerby who noticed the land and the water flowing from the spot talked to the sons about farming. Upon his advice, the four sons sowed vegetable seeds and planted greens and flowering plants in their land. Since the land was very fertile with abundant water, within a few weeks, it became a fertile garden with nutritious vegetables and greens. The four sons sold the vegetables at a good price and earned a good amount of money. They realised that it was hard work that was referred to as 'Treasure Box' by their father. Gradually, the four sons overcame their laziness, worked hard, earned more money and lived happily.

**Moral: Hard Work Always Pays.**

## **THE HORSE AND THE LION**

Long ago, there was a farmer who had an old horse with him. As the horse had become old, the farmer told the horse to leave his house and live in some forest. The horse became very sad. He said to his master, “ Master, I’m your old servant. I have served you all my life. I have always been faithful to you. So long as I was physically strong, you had all your affection for me but as soon as you realised that I have become physically weak, you asked me to leave your house and go and live in some forest. Is this my reward for the services that I have rendered?”

The farmer was at a loss of words. He had no logical answer.“All right!” the farmer said to the horse. “You can stay in my house provided you bring me a lion. I want a lion’s skin”. So the worried horse set out for the forest. There he met a fox. The fox took pity on the horse and enquired from him the reason of his sadness. The horse narrated the whole story.

The fox being good natured offered to help the horse. He said to the horse. “ You lie down on the ground as if you were dead”. The horse followed the advice of the fox and lay there on the ground as if he were dead. Then the fox met king lion and said,“ Your Majesty, there is a dead horse lying in an open field. It’s better you come and see for yourself.”

When the fox and the lion reached the spot, where the horse was lying pretending to be dead, the fox said, “ Let us pull this horse and put it behind the bushes so that we could have a peaceful meal. I’ll tie your tail to the tail of the horse so that you can pull him easily.”

“Yes, I agree with you, “ said the lion. So the fox, instead of tying lion’s tail to that of the horse, tied the horse’s tail with the leg of the lion. He asked the horse to get up and run fast. The horse at once got up and started running as fast as he could.

All this happened so suddenly that the lion didn’t get a chance to balance himself. The horse was running so fast that the lion was literally being dragged like a dead animal. His body slammed against big rock so many times and was caught by thorny bushes in the way. He was getting injuries after injuries and was bleeding heavily.

The lion began to cry and threaten but the horse didn’t stop. At last, the lion died. The horse stopped at his master’s house with the dead lion to its tail. The farmer was very happy to see the dead lion. He permitted the horse at his house as long as he wished.

**MORAL: Mind is mightier than body.**