

# Dhenukasura

Look at the meanings below. Can you find the words? Draw a circle around the words in the passage. Then write them next to the correct meaning.

One bright beautiful day, Krishna, Balarama and Their cowherd boyfriends were playing in the forest. The cowherd boys were feeling hungry and they began to speak to the brothers. “Dear Balarama, You are very powerful, Your arms are very strong. Dear Krishna, You are very expert in killing all kinds of demons. Just near this place is a forest named Talavana. This forest is full of palm trees and all the trees are filled with fruits, some are falling on the ground and some are ripe on the trees.

“It is a very nice place but because of the demon Dhenukasura, we cannot go there. This demon takes the form of an ass and he has many ass-shaped friends. All of them are very strong so we cannot get to the trees to pick the fruits. Not even animals go to that forest, no birds sleep there. Everyone is afraid of the demon.

“Except for You two, no one can enter that forest. We are desiring to taste those sweet fruits. Dear Balarama and Krishna, let us go there and enjoy those fruits.”

Krishna and Balarama were happy to please Their boyfriends. Together they went into the Talavana forest. As soon as they entered the forest, Balarama began to yank the trees, just like a strong elephant. Because of this jerking, all of the ripe fruits fell onto the ground. Upon hearing the sound of the boys and the falling fruits, Dhenukasura began to run through the forest, shaking the ground and the trees. The demon attacked Balarama and began to kick his chest with his back legs.

At first, Balarama didn't say anything but as Dhenukasura kicked Him more and more, Balarama caught one of his back legs and wheeled him around in the sky. He then threw the demon into the treetops. While he was being thrown around by Balarama, the demon lost his life. When Balarama threw Dhenukasura into the treetops, his body was so heavy that it knocked down several trees. Those trees knocked down other trees as well. It looked like a great wind had passed through the forest and had blown down all of the trees.

When Dhenukasura was dead, all of his demon friends came to kill Krishna and Balarama caught each of the asses by the back legs and wheeled him around. They killed all of the demons by throwing them into the palm trees. Hearing of this great feat, the demigods began to shower flowers on the two brothers and beat drums in happiness.

- |   |          |                           |    |       |                        |
|---|----------|---------------------------|----|-------|------------------------|
| 1 | powerful | possessing great strength | 6  | _____ | many                   |
| 2 | _____    | having special skill      | 7  | _____ | circular motion        |
| 3 | _____    | longing for               | 8  | _____ | noteworthy achievement |
| 4 | _____    | sudden pulling            | 9  | _____ | the name of the forest |
| 5 | _____    | acted against             | 10 | _____ | frightened             |