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The Farmer and the Apple-Tree

Aesop

Once upon a time, there was a farmer who had a big apple tree in his orchard. But this tree was different from the others. It didn't grow any apples at all. Instead, it was just a home for chirping birds and buzzing bees. The farmer thought the tree was a waste of space.

One day, the farmer decided to cut the apple tree down. He grabbed his sturdy axe and made the first chop at the tree's trunk. As soon as he did, the birds flew down and chirped, "Please don't cut down our home! We'll sing you songs every morning to cheer you up!"

But the farmer didn't listen. He made a second chop, and the bees buzzed around him, saying, "Please don't chop down the tree! We help make your garden full of flowers!"

Still, the farmer didn't stop. He made a third chop, and the tree began to crack. But as the tree opened up, the farmer saw something shiny inside. He looked closer and found a hive dripping with golden honey hidden in the hollow of the tree.

The farmer tasted the honey, and it was the sweetest thing he had ever had! He realized that the apple tree was special, even if it didn't grow any apples. He dropped his axe, and from that day on, he took good care of the old apple tree, enjoying the birds' songs and the sweet honey hidden inside.

And so, the farmer learned that sometimes, things can be more special than they seem.



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