Your English Toolbox

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 243

Short Stories with Peter: Anansi and the Pot of Wisdom

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

8 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

wisdom

DEF

The ability to make good decisions using knowledge and experience.

Wisdom is a noun; wise is the related adjective.

Her wisdom helped the village.

We learn wisdom from experience.

2

words of wisdom

DEF

A short piece of useful, wise advice.

Often used warmly, sometimes humorously.

Her words of wisdom stayed with me.

Do you have any words of wisdom for us?

3

climb

DEF

To go up something using your feet or hands.

The b is silent; climb up and climb down indicate direction.

Anansi climbed the tree.

The child climbed down the ladder.

4

break / broke / broken

DEF

To separate into pieces or stop working.

Broke is the past form; broken is the past participle.

The pot broke on the rock.

The glass is broken.

5

spread

DEF

To move across a wider area or reach more people.

The present and past forms are both spread.

The wisdom spread across the world.

The news spread quickly.

6

spread the word

DEF

To tell people about something so that more people know.

A conversational expression; the word means the news or message.

Please spread the word about the event.

Friends helped spread the word.

7

keep something to oneself

DEF

To avoid sharing something with other people.

Can refer to possessions or information; the pronoun changes with the subject.

He kept the wisdom to himself.

She kept the news to herself.

8

ashamed

DEF

Feeling embarrassed or guilty about something.

Often followed by of or about; it describes a feeling, not an action.

Anansi felt ashamed of his mistake.

She felt ashamed about her words.