Once upon a time, before the continent of Europe was granted, and they had a child who was the size of a hazelnut, just as they had said. They loved the child very much and they took excellent care of him. When the hazelnut child turned fifteen, his parents asked what he would become, now that he was of an age to work. They were no bigger than a hazelnut. At last, their wish was granted, and they had a child who was the size of a hazelnut. One day, the king invited the child to his court. The child was astonished and impressed by the king’s wealth and good fortune. However, he could accomplish his goals, despite his small size. The king’s vizier, who was a powerful and influential figure, was not impressed with the child’s strength and bravery. He challenged the child to a duel, but the child defeated the vizier and proved himself to be a worthy opponent. The king was so impressed with the child’s courage and skill that he granted him a title and a fiefdom. The child went on to become a great leader and a respected figure in his kingdom.

Directions: Use context clues to match each vocabulary word to its definition.

- crept: a paid occupation or job
- profession: a paid occupation or job
- astonished: moved slowly and quietly to avoid being noticed
- prosperity: greatly surprised or impressed

Making Inferences in a Fictional Text

Directions: Complete the chart by writing a quote from the text (on the left) and an inference you can make (on the right).

1. "You see, I told you messenger was on the back of another horse and presented his mother with the comb. "But how did you get home so quickly?" she asked. He did not answer her question, but only said, "You see, I told you messenger was on the back of another horse and presented his mother with the comb."
   - The hazelnut child returned home on the back of another horse and presented his mother with the comb.

2. After school, Alisha sometimes has a very hard time controlling her anger. One day, she can’t control her temper, and she throws her book in the boys’ locker. When she calms down, she feels embarrassed about her actions.
   - Alisha may have a difficult time managing her anger and emotions.

3. "The king was so taken with the hazelnut child that he gave the boy a diamond bigger than himself!"
   - The king was greatly impressed with the hazelnut child’s strength and abilities.

Making Inferences in a Fictional Text

An inference is a conclusion you come to based on reasoning and evidence within a text. Making an inference requires using both information from the text and your background knowledge. Read the passage below and answer the inference questions that follow.

The hazelnut child was astonished and impressed by the king’s wealth and good fortune. However, he could accomplish his goals, despite his small size. The king’s vizier, who was a powerful and influential figure, was not impressed with the child’s strength and bravery. He challenged the child to a duel, but the child defeated the vizier and proved himself to be a worthy opponent. The king was so impressed with the child’s courage and skill that he granted him a title and a fiefdom. The child went on to become a great leader and a respected figure in his kingdom.

What can you infer about the couple who later granted, and they had a child who was the size of a hazelnut? Were they richer than himself.

What can you infer about the king? He was so taken with the hazelnut child that he gave the boy a diamond bigger than himself.

What can you infer about the vizier? He was not impressed with the child’s strength and bravery.

Making Inferences

An inference is a conclusion you come to based on reasoning and evidence within a text. Making an inference requires using both information from the text and your background knowledge.