

Anansi and the Moss---Covered Rock Retold by Eric A. Kimmel

Lion:

Little Bush Deer:

Rhino:

1st Narrator:

Anansi:

2nd Narrator:

Narrator: Once upon a time Anansi the Spider was walking, walking through the forest when something caught his eye. It was a strange moss-covered rock.

Anansi: How interesting! Isn't this a strange moss-covered rock!

Cymbal crash

Narrator: Everything went black. Down fell Anansi the Spider, senseless. An hour later Anansi woke up.

Anansi: That's strange. I was walking along the path when this rock caught my eye. And I stopped and said, Isn't this a strange moss-covered rock!

Cymbal crash

Narrator: Down fell Anansi the Spider again. But this time when Anansi woke up an hour later, he knew what was happening.

Anansi: Aha! This is a magic rock! And when ever anyone comes along and says the magic words... Isn't this a strange humm. Then down he goes. And I know just how I can use it. (ha ha ha ha)

Lion Scene

Narrator: So Anansi the Spider went walking through the forest until he came to Lion's house. Lion was sitting on his porch with a great pile of yams.

Anansi: Hello Lion! It is very hot today don't you think?

Lion: Yes, Anansi. It is terribly hot.

Anansi: I am going for a walk in the cool jungle. Would you like to come?

Lion: I certainly would.

WALKING THROUGH THE FORREST UNTIL...

Lion: Isn't this a strange moss-covered rock.

Crash Cymbal

Narrator: Everything went black and down fell Lion, senseless. Anansi ran back to Lion's house and made off with his yams. An hour later Lion woke up and his head was spinning.

Lion: Anansi where are you?

Narrator: Anansi was nowhere in sight. And when Lion got home he found that every his yams were gone.

Lion: Anansi stole my yams! I thought he was my friend. Never trust a spider.

Anansi: (laughs) My plan is working. I have all of Lion's yummy yams, but I wonder if it will work again. I am going to go see if Rhino is at home.

Rhino Scene

Narrator: Once more Anansi went to Rhino's house. At Rhino's feet were a pile of beautiful watermelons. Anansi loved watermelon but he was too lazy plant them for himself.

Anansi: Hello Rhino! It is very hot today. Don't you think so?

Rhino: Yes, Anansi. It is hot.

Anansi: I was going for a walk in the cool jungle. Would you like to come?

Rhino: That sounds wonderful! I would love to come.

WALKING THROUGH THE FORREST UNTILL

Rhino: Isn't this a strange moss-covered rock.

Crash Cymbal

Narrator: Anansi ran back to Rhino's house and made off with Rhino's watermelons. An hour later Rhino woke up feeling very dizzy.

Rhino: Anansi where are you?

Narrator: Anansi was nowhere to be found. And when Rhino got home he found that his watermelons were gone.

Rhino: Anansi stole my watermelons! Never trust a spider.

Transition Scene:

Anansi: (laughs) My plan worked yet again. I have all of the Rhino's watermelons.

Little Bush Deer Scene

Narrator: All this time, Little Bush Deer was watching from behind the leaves. She had watched Anansi play his wicked little trick on her friends.

Little Bush Deer: I think it is time Anansi learn his lesson. I am going play a trick on Anansi.

Narrator: So off went Little Bush Deer. She climbed a coconut tree and threw down a great many coconuts.

Little Bush Deer: Now I will take these back to my porch and wait for Anansi.

Narrator: Sure enough along came Anansi. And sure enough Anansi's eyes lit up when he saw Little Bush Deer's pile of coconuts.

Anansi: Hello Little Bush Deer! It is so hot today! Don't you think so?

Little Bush Deer: Yes, Anansi. It is horribly hot.

Anansi: I am going for a walk in the cool jungle. Would you like to come?

Little Bush Deer: Yes, I would.

WALKING THROUGH THE FOREST UNTIL

Anansi: Do you see that Little Bush Deer?

Little Bush Deer: No, Anansi I don't see anything.

Anansi: You MUST see it; LOOK very carefully.

Little Bush Deer: No, I still don't see anything.

Anansi: You must see it. Look over here. Look right where I am pointing. Do you see it now?

Little Bush Deer: No, Anansi.

Anansi: You see it. You just don't want to say it.

Little Bush Deer: Say what?

Anansi: You know.

Little Bush Deer: Is that what I am supposed to say?

Anansi : Yes

Little Bush Deer: All right. Then I will say it to make you happy. '*You know.*' There! I said it. Are you satisfied?

Anansi: No! You're not suppose to say '*You know*'

Little Bush Deer: What am I supposed to say then?

Anansi: You're supposed to say, "*Isn't this a strange moss---covered rock!*"

Cymbals

Narrator: And as soon as Anansi said the magic words down he fell.

Little Bush Deer: I had better hurry and get back to tell all my friends what happened.
So that way they can all get their food back.

Narrator: All of the animals took back all the good things that Anansi had stolen from them. One hour later Anansi the Spider woke up.

Anansi: Wow, my head is spinning. Where is Little Bush Deer? (Look around) He's nowhere in sight. I think I'll go home.

Narrator: When Anansi got home he found that his house was as empty as before.
But if you think Anansi learned his lesson, you're wrong. Because he's still playing tricks to this very day. (You can NEVER trust a spider.)