

# How the Rhinoceros Got His Skin

by Charlie Wilder



One day a baker made a plum cake. "I'm so happy!" he cried. "It's perfect!"

But just then, a rhinoceros came along. He was big and did whatever he wanted. So he gobbled up the cake and moved on.

Only a few crumbs were left.





“You destroyed my perfect cake!” the baker shouted after him. “You will pay!”





The next morning was hot, and the rhinoceros went down to the river. In those days, rhinos had smooth skin with buttons.

The rhino undid the buttons and took off his skin. Then he went swimming.

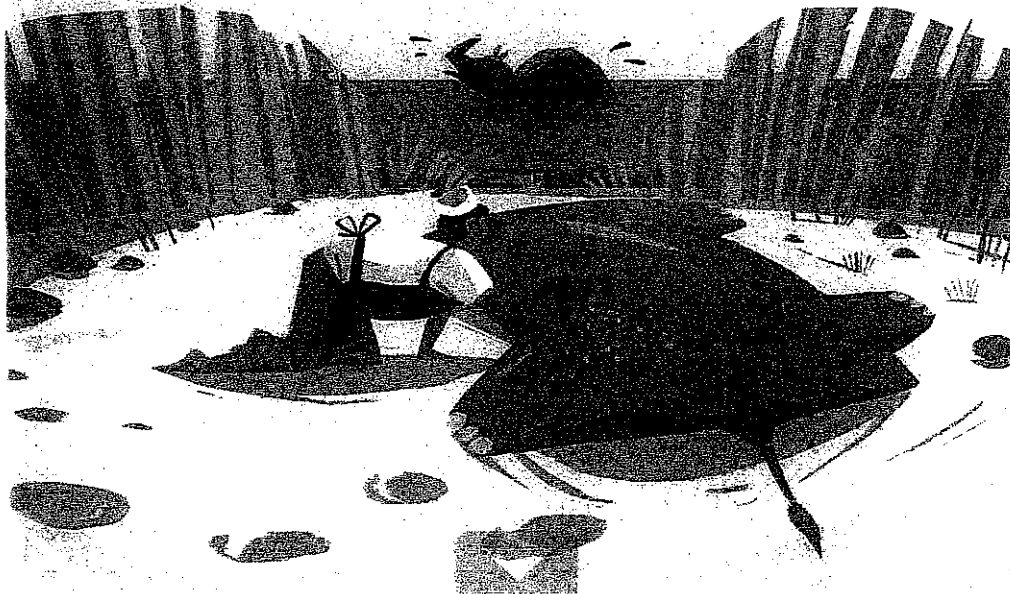




The baker saw the rhinoceros's skin lying on the ground.

"Hee, hee!" he laughed. He had an idea.

The baker gathered the cake crumbs from the perfect plum cake. He dropped them inside the rhino's smooth skin.





When the rhino came out of the river, he put his skin back on. His skin tickled. And it itched!

The rhinoceros rolled around. He rubbed against a tree. His skin got rumped and wrinkled.

But the itching did not stop.





Soon, his rubbing broke off the buttons.  
The rhinoceros couldn't take off his skin  
anymore.

From that day on, every rhinoceros has  
had folds in its skin – and a bad temper, too.



### After-Reading Questions

#### Question 1 (from p. 1 of passage)

What does the rhinoceros do?

- a. He steps on the cake.
- b. He bakes the cake.
- c. He eats the cake.

#### Question 2 (from p. 2 of passage)

How does the baker feel in this part of the story?

- a. The baker is surprised.
- b. The baker is mad.
- c. The baker is scared.

#### Question 3 (from p. 3 of passage)

What does the rhinoceros do at the river?

- a. He takes off his skin to swim.
- b. He washes his skin in the water.
- c. He pulls the buttons off his skin.



**Question 4** (from p. 3 of passage)

What is the skin of the rhino like?

- a. His skin is dirty.
- b. His skin is small.
- c. His skin is smooth.

**Question 5** (from p. 4 of passage)

What does the baker do in this part of the story?

- a. He gathers crumbs to make a cake.
- b. He puts crumbs inside the skin.
- c. He drops crumbs on the ground.

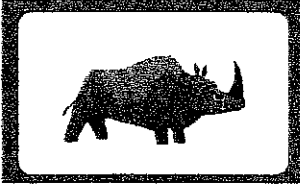
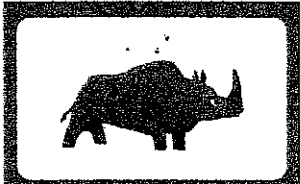
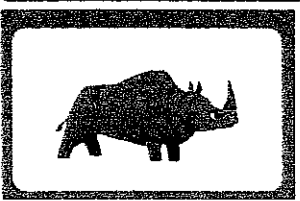
**Question 6** (from p. 5 of passage)

How does the rhino feel after he puts on his skin?

- a. He feels hot.
- b. He feels itchy.
- c. He feels wet.




**Question 7** (from p. 5 of passage)

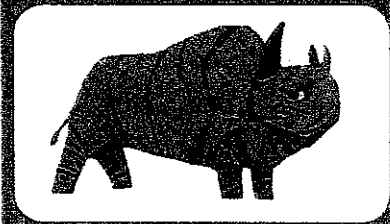
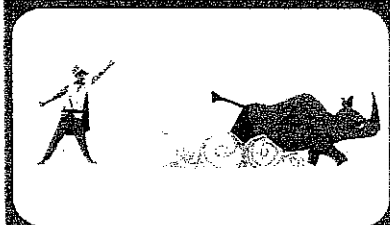
What happens to the rhino's skin? Choose the picture that shows what happens to the rhino's skin.

- a. 
- b. 
- c. 

**Question 8** (from p. 6 of passage)

Look at the chart. What happens at the end of the story? Choose the correct picture.

Beginning	Middle	End
		

- a. 
- b. 
- c. 