

Selekana and the River Goddess

1. What happened because of the loud croaks of the bull frogs?

Because of the loud croaks of the bull frogs some of the older Batswana would not be able to sleep and they would carry their reed mats outside and sleep behind the row of mopane trees.

2. Write a short note on the bead craft of the Batswana

The Batswana tribe are famous for their bead crafts. They make bracelets and amulets and arm bands and waist bands, and also necklaces and earrings and anklets in beautiful, attractive colours.

3. Why did the girls get jealous of Selekana? What did they do?

The girls got jealous of Selekana because she had the best collection of bead jewellery in the village. They hatched a plan where Selekana would have to give up all her precious collection of ornaments.

4. How did the River Goddess punish the girls who tricked Selekana?

The River Goddess punished the girls by not letting them fill their water pots. When they tried filling their pots, the water rushed away in another direction and left only sand and mud for the girls.

5. What type of a girl was Selekana? What have you learnt from her?

Selekana was a kind-hearted girl who willingly helped the older people of the village. She valued the gifts that she had received from the elders. When the goddess gave her the choice, instead of being greedy she chose only those ornaments that already belonged to her.