

Okaparnis Story Quest Ch. 3 – Membership and Fruit

“Congratulations, kid, now you’re one of us!” says Solidaster proudly. He continues by saying:

Now that you’re one of us, you get your own fancy Sunflower pendant. It’s like a necklace, so you should wear it around your neck. If you wear it proudly, you’ll be recognized as a Sunflower Pirate and that has some good perks.”

Now that you’re a Sunflower Pirate, you’ll get a 25% bonus when receiving Stars!!!

Antonio still looks really unhappy and distracted about the flowers in Florief, so you decide to use your new status to try to get some information. You ask Solidaster what happened to the flowers in Florief and he says:

“Well, I don’t normally like to talk about it, but since you’re part of my crew now, kid, I guess I can trust ya... I used to live in Florief, if you can believe it. Yeah, my whole crew and I used to play in those fields. It was great. We were even some of the best singers, if you can believe it. People used to come from all over the ocean to see us perform and it was amazing!

But, after a while, the people stopped coming as frequently, and then they stopped coming altogether. The thing is, most people don’t realize how much energy it takes for a flower to sing and dance. I mean, sure, we can survive without food; we can make our own using the sun through the process of photosynthesis. However, that can only sustain us as normal flowers. It takes a good deal more energy for us to talk, sing, and dance. We get that power through fruits.

When the people were here, we were happy to entertain them because they would bring a lot of money to us. We would then be able to trade the money for fruits at the Butterfly Playground. Eventually, though, the people stopped coming and we became weaker. As you know, many of us can barely speak, let alone dance and sing. We even look sick; we used to shine like gems in the sun, but now we look dull. Those who can speak really only have the energy to beg for money; doing anything extra would be too much for them to handle.

I started the Sunflower Pirates because I want to eventually make my home beautiful again. Since we live near the edge of the island, we can see when ships pass by. Recently, there have been a lot of ships passing by, so I came up with a plan; some of us who were young and still had energy would become performing pirates. We intercept ships and then put on a performance; usually they give us money. We’re doing really well so far. We have quite the reputation now, but our group is still small, so we aren’t making enough money to feed everyone in Florief.

We love to perform, but it’s exhausting work. I really like the freedom of being a pirate, but I hope the people start coming back so we won’t have to work so hard anymore.

Then, my crew and I can sail the oceans without needing to worry if our families will be okay. Oh, dreams..."

After listening to his story, you now understand why things are so different from how they were when Antonio used to visit. You're proud to be a Sunflower Pirate and you'll do what you can to help out, but you can't stay here. Tira is still worried about her mom, so you need to continue. Antonio, who looks like he feels better, says that your next destination is the Bonsai Garden, so you say goodbye to Solidaster and set sail again...

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You land on the coast and walk to a tiny forest. Most of the trees are no taller than a meter, yet they look very old and strong. You walk around the forest toward the biggest tree; it's about two meters tall and looks very old. You see some kind of fruit on its branches, so you go to pick one when the tree suddenly shakes and bellows:

"Don't touch my fruit! My name is Grapple. I am the guardian of the Bonsai Garden. These ancient trees are the picking grounds of the Mantis Monks. They swim here once a year as a test of will and their reward are the fruits here.

It is a great honor to feed them, but I'm afraid this year we may not make it. We need to collect a $\frac{1}{2}$ kg of fruit, but I'm not sure how much we've collected so far. If you help me figure this out, I will give you something good..."

Task: Grapple needs your help. There are three types of fruits in the Bonsai Garden: Bananas, Oranges, and Pineapples. Each one weighs a certain number of grams. The boxes with numbers total the weights of the fruits: If it's on the right, it's the sum of the fruit in that row. If it's on the bottom, it is the sum of the fruit in that column. You need to:

- 1) Figure out the missing totals for the remaining rows and columns.
- 2) Add up all the totals for each row and column, then figure out how many grams of fruit they still need to make. [Remember, they need to produce a $\frac{1}{2}$ kg to succeed.]

				
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