

# Who is the Forest's King of Music?



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## The ABCs of Law

Deacons, a Hong Kong law firm with more than 165 years of history, continues to work closely with the Hans Andersen Club. The two organisations have now worked together since 2014, creating an education programme specially designed to help children to develop their knowledge of the legal system in Hong Kong, including some basic legal concepts such as contractual obligations, intellectual property rights, and to understand their rights and obligations as members of Hong Kong's community.

"The ABCs of Law" is an initiative of Deacons' corporate social responsibility programme, "Deacons Cares". As part of the programme, Deacons' volunteers lead interactive workshops, either at the Hans Andersen centres or Deacons' offices. Through drama, stories, interactive discussions and special learning kits, children are encouraged to participate and express their views. The programme reached another significant milestone in 2020 – Deacons' volunteers worked with an illustrator to create storybooks. This effort highlights the programme's ongoing commitment and desire to educate children on the different fields of law through the art of storytelling.

We are proud to be behind a programme that provides valuable opportunities for our children to explore the relationship between law and society, and learn about their own rights and duties.

## Who is the Forest's King of Music?

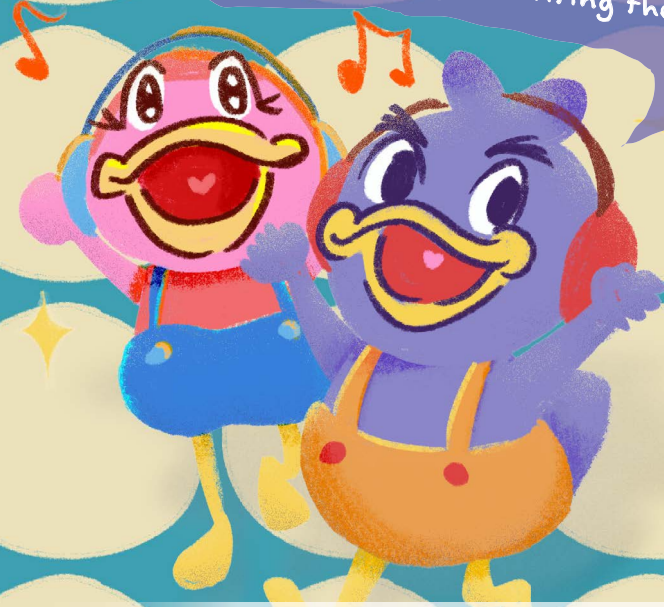
The village of Forest Lake is a beautiful and picturesque tourist destination. However, because of the typhoon last year, much of the environment had been destroyed. This stopped many tourists from visiting the village that had once been a popular destination.

To attract travellers to the village, Old Spotty, the village leader decided to hold a songwriting competition. The villagers all loved the idea that the winning song would be used as Forest Lake's theme tune!

In order to promote tourism, we will invite all the best songwriters in the realm to participate in our songwriting competition!



This is our chance to demonstrate our musical talents! What do you say Quackalina, since you're better at songwriting than I am, you can be in charge of writing the song!



The entire village encouraged the duo, the Ducksters, to enter the competition, as Quackie and Quackalina were the new singing duo of the village. The Ducksters rule!

However, Quackalina was crumbling under the pressure. She worked hard every day, but her mind was blank! Quackalina couldn't think of a melody, nor could she think of any lyrics - she had zero inspiration.



Just when the Ducksters were about to give up, Freckles, the travel loving rabbit came along, back from his trip from Jungle Lake: "Look what I have! It's a new song from the village Jungle Lake 100 miles from here!" Freckles knew that the Ducksters loved music so he gave them a signed copy of Snazzy Swans' new tune as a present from his travels.

Quackie listened to the Snazzy Swans' tune, and seeing how tired Quackalina was, he came up with an idea:

Quackalina, let's just take the snazzy swans' melody, change it up a bit and make it our own. Since they're 10 villages away from us, I'm sure no one around here has ever heard it before, so it'll be absolutely super for us to use it in the competition! No one will have a clue!

What? But that's their original work, Quackie! They must have worked so hard, how could we steal their masterpiece? That would be wrong!

Quiet! As long as you keep your mouth shut, no one will ever find out!



## REFLECTION TIME:

If you were the Ducksters, would you copy Snazzy Swans' song for the sake of winning a competition?



'Ding Dong!' the bell rang. It was Sly Fox from next door. 'What on earth are you guys fighting about? I could hear all the fuss from next door!' Sly Fox curiously exclaimed. The Ducksters told Sly Fox their dilemma and he replied with a grin.

Why the frown? Just swap the song name and lyrics with your own and no one will notice! You'll save time and you'll win the competition for sure!



Wait! Are we really going to use Snazzy Swans' song?

Let's hurry to the studio!

Quackalina was unsure about what Sly Fox had said. She thought that taking someone else's work was wrong, and that changing it a bit was still copying. But Quackie was delighted by the idea and dragged her to the studio to practice Snazzy Swans' song.



Wait... You guys aren't using  
the Snazzy Swans' song...  
Are you?

The Ducksters ran into their neighbour Freckles, on their way out, who asked 'where are you guys heading?' But before Quackalina could reply, he quickly noticed Quackie holding Snazzy Swans' melody!

Quackie was beaming with pride, he thought he was the smartest of them all! He replied, 'Yes'.

After hearing this, you could see steam coming out of Freckles' long thin ears! He was furious.

You can't do that, that's plagiarism!  
It's not only lazy, it is also very unfair  
to the Snazzy Swans!

They've put sweat and tears into  
making this song. If they knew you  
were copying it, they'd be so upset!





Aha no worries! Just change the song title and lyrics. It'll be fine.

You stole the melody from the Snazzy Swans. It's not your original work!



If we act like you and steal other creators' work, their efforts will end up being in vain. I wouldn't have the motivation to create anything new if it can be copied so easily!

### REFLECTION TIME:

Freckles and Sly Fox don't agree on this problem, but who do you agree with?



After the heated discussion, Quackie insisted on using Snazzy Swans' melody to join the competition and handed in a modified version to Old Spotty.



They sound so similar!  
Did you really compose  
your own song?

It is ours! We gave Freckles  
a signed copy of our  
sheet music too.





Quackalina felt sorry and apologised to Old Spotty for taking the illegal shortcut by copying someone else's work and for not fulfilling her responsibility as a singer-songwriter.

After finding out that the Ducksters used the original work of the Snazzy Swans, Old Spotty decided to disqualify the Ducksters. He announced that the Snazzy Swans were the winners of the competition!



After all the animals went home, Old Spotty asked Quackie, "Do you know what Intellectual Property is?"

Quackie shamefully dipped his brow and shook his head. Old Spotty patiently explained, "It's okay to make mistakes. Intellectual Property means that we have to respect others' effort and protect the rights of the original owner!"



Quackie now understood how important it was to respect intellectual property rights, and understood how his plagiarism harmed the Snazzy Swans and the village.

Think about it: You win the competition, and the village uses your melody to attract tourists. Eventually, someone will find out your song is plagiarised, and everyone will think that the animals from our village are liars!





Quackie learned his lesson and was so ashamed of himself. The Ducksters apologised to the Snazzy Swans, and promised never to plagiarise again.

## What is “intellectual property”?

Intellectual property is a type of intangible property protected by law which generally includes, but is not limited to, patents, copyright, trademarks and designs.

Why do we have to protect intellectual property? The reason is that we have to respect the results of everyone's skills and labour! In fact, intellectual property protection can foster more creativity and enable people to make good use of their knowledge to create new things, so as to enhance societal progress and development. Original songs and lyrics are works which are protected by copyright. A copyright owner can reproduce, publicly perform and create adaptations of his/her own works.

If anyone uses any copyright works without the owner's authorization, such as copying songs, lyrics and other works created by others, he/she may have to bear legal liability.

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