

Retelling of

"The Tortoise and the Hare"

- ① One day, Fox and Tortoise were chatting happily by the river when suddenly Hare bounded past them. "Look at me! I run so fast!" he shouted. "No one compares to me."
- ② Then Hare started insulting Tortoise.
- ③ "You're so slow, you practically move backward," he said. "I, however, am built for speed."
- ④ Tortoise tried to ignore Hare, but she soon grew tired of his boasting.
- ⑤ "You think you're faster than the wind," snapped Tortoise, "but you're not. Even I could beat you in a race."
- ⑥ Hare rolled on the ground, hooting with laughter. "You think you're faster than me?" he gasped.
- ⑦ "Absolutely," replied Tortoise. "I hereby challenge you to a race. Do you accept?"
- ⑧ "Of course, I accept," said Hare. "And the winner of the race shall be declared the fastest in the forest."
- ⑨ Fox was puzzled by Tortoise's challenge, but he agreed to judge the race.
- ⑩ "Ready, set, go!" yelled Hare. He sped off into the distance while Tortoise plodded, slowly and steadily.
- ⑪ Hare ran until he saw a hammock of dried grass.



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- ⑫ “That looks soft and comfortable,” murmured Hare. “That ridiculous tortoise is far behind me, so I might as well nap a bit. I can race ahead again when she comes into view.”
- ⑬ Hare curled up and fell fast asleep.
- ⑭ Meanwhile, Tortoise trudged onward. Eventually, she passed the sleeping hare. Step by step, she approached the finish line.
- ⑮ Just then, Hare woke up. “That tortoise will never catch up,” he thought. “I might as well finish this race, anyway.”
- ⑯ Hare sprinted away and, to his horror, saw Tortoise creeping across the finish line!
- ⑰ “Slow and steady wins the race,” stated Fox loudly. “I hereby declare Tortoise to be the fastest in the forest.”

PROMPTS

**Write to retell a fable. Here are some ideas.
Or use your own! Write to retell a fable from . . .**

- the Student Resource Handbook.
- the Writing Central passage cards.
- a book in your classroom library or the school's learning resource center.
- a favorite book, recording, or website.

Be sure to—

- use your own words to retell the fable.
- include all the important characters.
- retell the events in the correct order.
- include the moral or lesson at the end.

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