

Classic Fables in Rhythm and Rhyme

Grade Level: PreK–2

Content Areas: Music, Movement, Technology, Art, and Language Arts Time Frame: 90 Minutes

MATERIALS

Classic Fables in Rhythm and Rhyme series

Moral of the Story worksheet

markers or crayons

OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Understand what a fable is and how it is told
- Make predictions about the fable by examining the book's cover
- Be able to find the moral of a fable
- Recall details from the fable that relate to the moral

KEY VOCABULARY

Before reading, focus on vocabulary. Read the glossary words and their definitions.

Aesop—a legendary storyteller who is said to have lived in ancient Greece around 600 BCE

fables—short stories that often have animal characters and teach a lesson

moral—a lesson, often found in a fable or story

FREE SONG

Click [here](#) to download or stream the Classic Fables in Rhythm and Rhyme songs.

Find other Cantata Learning songs and books at <https://cantatalearning.com>.



PROCEDURES/ACTIVITIES

Preparation:

Gather students and write the definition of the word *moral* on the board. Ask students to think of some morals they've learned from books or adults' advice. Write the morals on the board.

Lesson Procedure:

1. Hold up the book titled *The Milkmaid and Her Pail*. Review the cover image together. Ask students to predict what the moral of this story might be. Write their predictions on the board.
2. Now read the book aloud and play the music too. Then compare the moral that is explained on page 21 with the students' predictions. Discuss what the moral means, using everyday examples (such as spending money before you are paid).
3. Ask students to brainstorm some different morals for the story (such as: pay attention to where you walk or you might fall, or daydreaming can distract you from what you need to do).
4. Now hand out the Moral of the Story worksheet to students. Tell them that you will be reading five more fables to them. They need to pick one to use for the worksheet. Show them the covers of *The Tortoise and the Hare*, *The Ant and the Grasshopper*, *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, *The Fox and the Grapes*, and *The Lion and the Mouse*. Ask students to write the title of the story they picked on the worksheet.
5. Before you read, tell the class to pay attention to the moment the character learns the moral of the story. Now read the books to the class.
6. When you are done reading, ask students to recall the moment the character learned the moral in the story they picked. Hand out markers and crayons to students. Have students draw the moment the character learned the moral in the box on the worksheet.
7. When they are done drawing, students should write the moral of the story in their own words at the bottom of the worksheet. Invite students to share their pictures and morals with the class.

Art Extension: Just like the mouse helps the lion in *The Lion and the Mouse*, kids can help grown-ups do things. Ask students to make a book of ways they help grown-ups they know. Provide them with paper folded and stapled into small booklets and some markers or crayons. They should write down a way they help on each page and create a picture that shows how they help.

Movement Extension: Encourage students to dance while you play the fables' songs. They can act out the details of the story with their dance moves. For example, during *The Tortoise and the Hare* students can run fast in one spot while the lyrics tell about the hare running in the race. You can make it a game too. Have half of the class watch and guess which fable the other half is acting out.

Writing extension: Have students write a new ending to *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*. What could they make different about the ending? How will it change the moral? Encourage students to be creative with their endings and share them with the class.

Technology Extension: Go to CapstoneKids.com for word-search puzzles and matching games about different fables, including *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* and *The Fox and the Grapes*.

Standards:

Kindergarten: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.3, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.8, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.5, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.K.1

First Grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.3, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.8, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.5, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.1

Second Grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.10, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.3, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.1

