

The Hare and the Tortoise (Key Stage 2)



A) Lesson Outline

This lesson outline is designed for Key Stage 2 students to explore the classic fable '*The Hare and the Tortoise*', while developing their English language skills through storytelling and a collaborative puppet show. The lessons encourage critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork, providing opportunities for students to express themselves through performance and discussion. Teachers are free to adapt the activities to suit their students' levels and interests, ensuring an engaging and inclusive learning experience.

Lesson 1: Introduction

- Introduce key vocabulary (e.g. fast, faster, fastest; slow, slower, slowest; strong, stronger, strongest, arrogant, determined, perseverance, humble).
- Use sentences with comparatives and superlatives to describe the animals (e.g., "The hare is faster than the tortoise," "The tortoise is the slowest animal in the forest.")
- Read or tell the story of '*The Hare and the Tortoise*' using a storybook, flashcards, or the storytelling video on the NET Section e-platform.
- Discuss the moral of the story.

Lesson 2: Puppet Show Preparation

- Show the puppets (Hare, Tortoise, Lion, & Mouse) and explain their roles.
- Divide students into small groups.
- Introduce the script.
- Practise reading the script together as a class, then in small groups.
- Encourage students to add their own creative touches to the script.

Lesson 3: Rehearsal and Performance

- Each group rehearses their performance, focusing on expression, timing, and teamwork.
- Provide feedback on pronunciation, fluency, and creativity.
- Encourage students to experiment with different voices and actions for their characters.
- Each group takes turns performing their puppet show for the class.
- Encourage the audience to listen carefully and provide positive feedback.
- Praise students for their effort and teamwork.

B) Puppet Show Script

➤ Characters

- **Tortoise:** Slow but wise and determined.
- **Hare:** Fast, confident, and a bit arrogant.
- **Lion:** The wise and fair judge of the race.
- **Mouse:** Tortoise's supportive and clever friend.

➤ Setting

- A forest.

➤ Props

- A finish line banner.
- A small tree (for shade).
- Some grass.

Scene 1: The Challenge and Race Begins

(The stage is set. Tortoise enters slowly from stage left, while Hare bounds in energetically from stage right.)

Hare: (boasting) Look at me! I am the fastest creature in the entire forest!

Tortoise: (calmly) That's impressive, Hare. But speed alone doesn't win every contest.

Hare: (laughing) What do you mean, Tortoise? You're so slow!

Tortoise: (with determination) I challenge you to a race.

Hare: (smirking) A race? This will be the easiest victory ever!

(Lion strides in from stage center.)

Lion: (with authority) What's this? A race? Sounds exciting! I'll be the judge.

Mouse: (scurrying in) Tortoise, be careful! Hare is very fast!

Tortoise: (confidently) I know, Mouse. But I believe I can do it.

(Lion stands between Tortoise and Hare.)

Lion: (raising a paw) On your marks... Get set... Go!

(Hare dashes off to the right side of the stage, while Tortoise begins to move at a slow but steady pace.)

Hare: (glancing back) I'm so far ahead! (yawning) I think I'll take a nap.

(Hare lies down under the tree, closing his eyes with a smile.)

Tortoise: (walking steadily) I may be slow, but I will keep going.



Scene 2: Tortoise's Steady Progress and Hare Wakes Up

(Tortoise continues to walk across the stage with determination.)

Mouse: (cheering from the side) Go, Tortoise! You can do it!

(Tortoise takes deliberate steps, moving past the sleeping Hare.)

Tortoise: (to himself) Slow and steady wins the race. I won't give up.

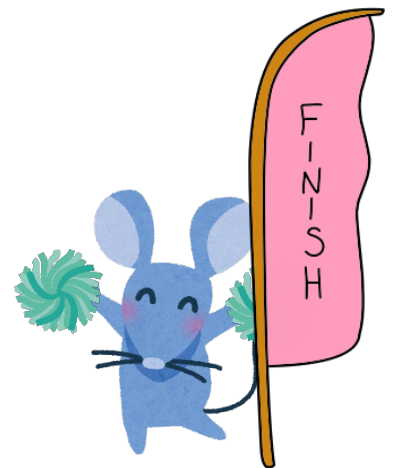
(Hare stirs awake suddenly.)

Hare: (yawning) What? I fell asleep!

(Hare looks around and realizes Tortoise is far ahead.)

Hare: (panicking) Oh no! I must hurry!

(Hare dashes towards the finish line, using all his speed.)



Scene 3: The Finish Line and Reflection

(Tortoise is nearing the finish line as Lion stands nearby.)

Lion: (excitedly) Who will win this race?

(Hare runs in, but Tortoise is just a few steps away.)

Hare: (shouting) I'm almost there!

(Tortoise crosses the finish line just before Hare can reach it.)

Lion: (cheering) Tortoise wins! What a surprising outcome!

(Hare looks shocked and a bit ashamed.)

Hare: (sighing) I was too confident. I thought I could win easily.

Tortoise: (kindly) It's not just about speed, Hare. It's about perseverance and determination.

Mouse: (enthusiastically) Yes! We can all learn from this!

Lion: (nodding) Every race teaches us a lesson. Well done, Tortoise!

(All characters gather at center stage.)

Tortoise: (smiling) Let's be friends and support each other!

Hare: (nodding) I will train harder. Next time, I won't underestimate anyone!

Mouse: (cheering) Hooray for Tortoise and Hare! Teamwork is important!

Lion: (roaring softly) Hooray! Let's celebrate this wonderful lesson!

(All characters wave to the audience.)

All Together: Thank you for watching our show! Remember, anything is possible with hard work!



End of Script

C) Extended Activities

Speaking Activities

Objective: Develop critical thinking and communication skills.

- **What Would You Do?:**

Pose scenarios for discussion:

- If you were the hare, would you take a nap during the race? Why or why not?
- If you were the tortoise, how would you feel when the hare laughed at you?

- **Real-Life Connections:** Discuss examples of perseverance and overconfidence in real life (e.g., sports, school, or personal experiences).

Writing Activities

Objective: Develop writing skills and creativity.

- **Rewrite the Story:** Students rewrite the story from a different perspective (e.g., the hare's point of view or a bystander watching the race).
- **Create a Sequel:** Students write a sequel to the story. For example:
 - What happens in the next race between the hare and the tortoise?
 - Do they become friends or rivals?

Arts and Crafts Activities

Objective: Encourage creativity and hands-on learning.

- **Design a Poster:** Students create a poster advertising the puppet show, including details like the date, time, and place.

Cross-Curricular Activities

Objective: Integrate the story with other subjects.

- **Math Connection:**
Create a simple graph to compare the speeds of different animals (e.g., hare, tortoise, dog, snail). Students can practise counting and basic graphing skills.