

The Hare and the Tortoise (Key Stage 1)



A) Lesson Outline

This lesson outline is designed to introduce Key Stage 1 students to the classic fable *The Hare and the Tortoise* while developing their English language skills through storytelling and creative performance. The lesson guides students from understanding the story's moral to performing a short puppet show, encouraging collaboration, confidence, and creativity. Teachers are free to adapt the ideas and activities based on the level and needs of their students, making it a flexible and inclusive resource for diverse classrooms.

Lesson 1: Introduction

- Introduce key vocabulary (e.g. hare, tortoise, fast, slow, race, win, try, nap).
- Use simple sentences to describe the animals (e.g. "The hare is fast. The tortoise is slow.").
- 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 use expressive voices and actions.

Lesson 3: Rehearsal and Performance

- Each group rehearses their performance.
- Provide feedback on pronunciation, expression, and actions.
- Encourage students to help each other and work as a team.
- Each group takes turns performing their puppet show for the class.
- Praise students for their effort and teamwork.

B) Puppet Show Script

➤ Characters

- **Tortoise:** Slow but wise.
- **Hare:** Fast and overconfident.
- **Lion:** The wise judge of the race.
- **Mouse:** Supportive friend of Tortoise.

➤ Setting

- A forest.

➤ Props

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

Scene 1: The Challenge

(The stage is set. Tortoise is slowly walking in from stage left. Hare is jumping around excitedly from stage right.)

Hare: (boasting) Look at me! I am the fastest animal in the world!

Tortoise: (calmly) That's great, Hare. But speed is not everything.

Hare: (laughing) What do you mean, Tortoise? You are slow!

Tortoise: (smiling) I would like to race you.

Hare: (surprised) You want to race me? This will be easy!

(Lion enters from stage center.)

Lion: (roaring softly) What is happening here?

Mouse: (running in) Tortoise wants to race Hare!

Lion: (thoughtfully) A race? That sounds fun! Let's do it!



Scene 2: The Race Begins

(Lion stands between Tortoise and Hare.)

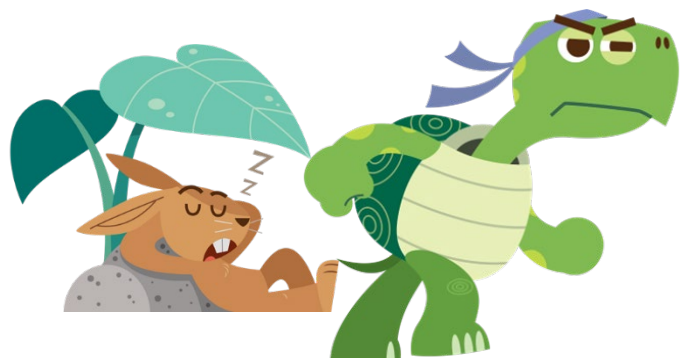
Lion: (to the audience) Let's start the race! Ready, set, go!

(Hare runs quickly to the right side of the stage, while Tortoise slowly walks forward.)

Hare: (looking back) I am so far ahead! (yawns) I can take a nap!

(Hare lies down under the tree and closes his eyes.)

Tortoise: (walking steadily) I will keep going.



Scene 3: Tortoise Keeps Going

(Tortoise continues to walk slowly across the stage.)

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

(Tortoise takes small, steady steps and moves past the sleeping Hare.)

Tortoise: (to himself) Slow and steady wins the race.



Scene 4: The Hare Wakes Up

(Hare wakes up suddenly.)

Hare: (stretching) What? I fell asleep!

(Hare jumps up and runs quickly towards the finish line.)

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



Scene 5: The Finish Line

(Tortoise is close to the finish line. Lion stands near it.)

Lion: (excitedly) Who will win?

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

Hare: (shouting) I'm almost there!

(Tortoise crosses the finish line just before Hare.)

Lion: (cheering) Tortoise wins!



Scene 6: The Lesson

(Hare looks shocked and sad.)

Hare: (sighing) I was too confident. I should have tried harder.

Tortoise: (kindly) It's okay, Hare. You are fast. But remember, slow and steady can win too.

Mouse: (happily) Yes! Everyone can learn something!

Lion: (smiling) Good job, Tortoise! You taught us all a lesson today.



Scene 7: Celebration

(All characters join together at center stage.)

Tortoise: (smiling) Let's be friends!

Hare: (nodding) Yes! I will train harder.

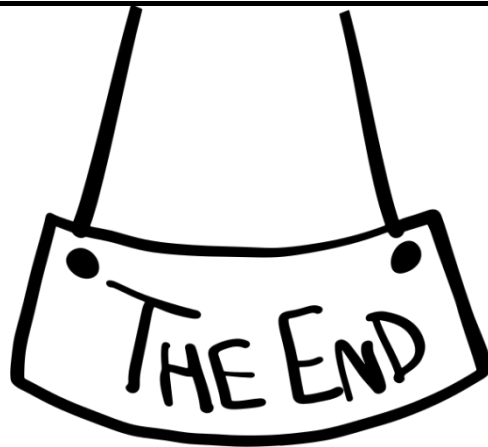
Mouse: (cheering) Hooray for Tortoise and Hare!

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

(All characters wave to the audience.)

All Together: Thank you for watching our show!

(All puppets bow or wave goodbye.)



C) Extended Activities

Writing Activities

Objective: Develop writing skills and creativity.

- **Sentence Building:**
Provide students with word banks (e.g., fast, slow, race, win, try) and have them create their own sentences or short paragraphs about the story.
- **Storybook Creation:**
In groups, students create their own illustrated storybooks of *The Hare and the Tortoise*. They can write simple sentences and draw pictures for each part of the story.

Arts and Crafts Activities

Objective: Encourage creativity and hands-on learning.

- **Puppet Making:**
Students create their own Hare and Tortoise puppets using paper bags, socks, or craft sticks. They can decorate the puppets with colors, patterns, and accessories.

Cross-Curricular Activities

Objective: Integrate the story with other subjects.

- **Science Connection:**
Learn about real hares and tortoises. Discuss their habitats, diets, and behaviors. Compare how they move (e.g., fast vs. slow).