

The Lion and the Mouse (Key Stage 2)



A) Lesson Outline

This lesson outline is designed for Key Stage 2 students to explore the fable *'The Lion and the Mouse'*, while developing their English language skills, critical thinking, and creativity. The highlight of the lessons is a puppet show performance, which provides a fun and interactive way for students to practice speaking, listening, and teamwork while building confidence in using English. Extended activities further encourage students to apply the story's moral to real-life situations and express their understanding through arts, writing, and discussion. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the activities to suit their students' levels and interests, ensuring a fun and meaningful learning experience.

Lesson 1: Introduction

- Introduce key vocabulary (e.g. mighty, tiny, explore, disturb, regret, smallest, greatest, although, until).
- Grammar Explanation: Briefly explain how conjunctions and connectives link ideas (e.g., "although" shows contrast, "when" shows time).
- 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 (Lion, Mouse, Hare/Tortoise) and explain their roles.
- Divide students into small groups.
- Introduce the script.
- Encourage students to add their own sentences using conjunctions. (e.g. Although I am strong, I need your help!).
- Practise reading the script together as a class, then in small groups.

Lesson 3: Rehearsal and Performance

- Each group rehearses their performance with puppets, focusing on expression, timing, and teamwork.
- Provide feedback on grammar usage (e.g., correct use of conjunctions) and creativity.
- Encourage students to experiment with different voices and actions for their characters.
- Reflect on the performance.
- End with a fun activity, such as a quick quiz on conjunctions.

B) Puppet Show Script

➤ Characters

- **Lion:** Strong and proud initially; and grateful by the end.
- **Mouse:** Quick, kind, helpful and brave.
- **Narrator** use either the hare or tortoise puppet.

➤ Setting

- A forest.

➤ Props

- A small tree (for shade).
- A net.
- Some grass.

Scene 1: The Lion's Nap

(Narrator stands to one side. Lion is lying under a tree, sleeping. Mouse enters, hopping around happily.)

Narrator: Once upon a time, in a great forest, there lived a mighty lion. He was the king of all animals, but sometimes even kings can learn important lessons from the smallest creatures.

Lion: (Yawning) Ahh, what a perfect day for a nap under this shady tree. I am the strongest animal in the forest, and I deserve my rest!

(Lion lies down and starts snoring loudly.)

Mouse: (Squeaky, happy voice) La la la! What fun it is to explore! Oh my! Is that... the king of the forest? I better be very quiet...

(Mouse runs around, then trips and bumps into Lion.)

Oops! Oh no!

Lion: (Waking up angrily) ROAR! Who dares disturb my sleep? Tiny mouse, I should eat you for lunch!

Mouse: (Nervously) Oh please, mighty lion! Please let me go! I'm so sorry I woke you. Although I am small, perhaps one day I can help you!

Lion: (Laughing loudly) YOU? Help ME? How could such a tiny mouse help the king of the forest? But you made me laugh, so I'll let you go.

Mouse: (Relieved) Thank you, Mr. Lion! You won't regret it!

(Mouse skips away. Lion lies back down and starts snoring again.)



Scene 2: The Lion is Trapped

(Narrator stands to one side. Lion is caught in a net, struggling.)

Narrator: A few days later, while the lion was walking through the forest, he suddenly got caught in a hunter's net!

Lion: (Scared and shouting) Help! Help! I'm stuck! I can't get out!

Mouse: (Running in) Don't worry, lion! I heard your roar and came to help!

Lion: (Doubtful) But you're so small!

Mouse: (Confidently) Watch me! My tiny teeth can chew through these ropes!

(Mouse makes nibbling sounds.)

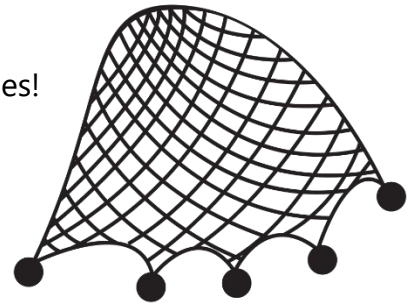
Mouse: Nibble, nibble, nibble!

Narrator: The mouse chewed and chewed until...

(Mouse stops nibbling and steps back.)

Lion: (Excited) I'm free! Little mouse, you saved my life! I was wrong to laugh at you.

Mouse: (Happily) I'm glad I could help! Since you were kind to me, I wanted to return the favor. Now we're truly friends!



Scene 3: The Moral of the Story

(Narrator stands to one side. Lion and Mouse stand together, smiling.)

Narrator: And so, the mighty lion learned that every creature, no matter how small, deserves respect and kindness. The lion and mouse remained friends after that day, and they lived happily ever after.

(Lion and Mouse wave to the audience.)

Narrator: Thank you for watching our show!

End of Script

C) Extended Activities

Speaking Activities

Objective: Encourage teamwork and collaboration.

- **Real-Life Connections:** Discuss examples of helping others in real life using conjunctions (e.g., "My friend was upset, so I cheered her up.").

Writing Activities

Objective: Develop writing skills and creativity.

- **Letter Writing:** Students write a letter from the lion to the mouse, using conjunctions to express gratitude (e.g., "I was trapped, but you helped me. You saved me, so I will always be your friend.").

Arts and Crafts Activities

Objective: Encourage creativity and hands-on learning.

- **Class Mural:**
As a class, create a large mural of the forest scene from the story. Each student can contribute by drawing or painting a part of the mural (e.g., trees, animals, the net).

Values Education Activities

Objective: Promote positivity.

- **Kindness Chart:** Create a chart with examples of kindness.
- **Role-Playing:** Using puppets, students act out scenarios where they demonstrate kindness or help a friend in need.
- **Classroom Helpers:** Assign students as 'kindness helpers' for the week to encourage helping others in the classroom.