

## 3<sup>rd</sup> grade STA Reading

Hi 3<sup>rd</sup> grade STA students! I miss you and I pray for you! Remember to keep reading every day!

Today we will begin a unit on **Traditional Literature**, also known as **Folktales**.

**Folktales** are stories that have been *told again and again for many generations*. These are stories of the people (folks) often told for *entertainment*, but also to *teach* the younger generations.

The category of Folktales includes **fables, tall tales, legends, myths and fairy tales**. This week we will focus on fables.

**Fables** are short stories that teach a moral (a lesson). The characters within fables are often animals who can speak and reason.

Aesop is the most famous writer of fables. He was a Greek slave who lived in 600 BC! That is a long time ago, and still today we retell his fables.

Read the popular fable “The Tortoise and the Hare” <http://read.gov/aesop/025.html>

I will summarize the fable in three parts:

First...Tortoise and Hare agreed to run a race.

Next...Hare was confident that he would win, so he took a nap.

Then...Tortoise passed Hare and won the race

Moral...Slow and steady wins the race.

Here are several other fables for you to practice on. Read each fable, retell it in three parts, and state the moral in your own words.

The Dog and his Reflection <http://read.gov/aesop/026.html>

The Fox and the Crow <http://read.gov/aesop/027.html>

The Ants and the Grasshopper <http://read.gov/aesop/052.html>

The Fox and the Goat <http://read.gov/aesop/019.html>

**HOMEWORK:** Read the 3 fables on the next page. Retell each fable in three parts (first, next, then) and state the moral of each fable. This is your homework for the week, so you may do a little of it each day. Email me your fable summaries (see last page) by Monday, 4/13 at [mmyler@gtacs.org](mailto:mmyler@gtacs.org)

### **The Two Mules**

Two mules were once journeying along with heavily loaded packs. One carried baskets full of gold pieces, the other sacks of barley. The mule that was carrying the money walked along proudly, tossing his head, arching his neck and making the bell he wore ring out clearly. The other mule walked sedately along behind.

Suddenly a band of robbers sprang out at them from behind the rocks. The drivers and the robbers fought fiercely but in the end the robbers rode off with the gold.

In the fighting and confusion the first mule was wounded. The second mule, whose load of barley did not interest the robbers, managed to stand back unnoticed. When all was quiet again he came forward.

“I am sorry you are hurt,” he said to the wounded mule. “When we started I envied your fine load of gold but now I am glad I was only carrying barley. For you have lost everything, and I am not even scratched. Come on, I will help you along the road.”

### **The Fox and the Grapes**

One day a hungry fox went into a vineyard looking for food. The grapes were heavy and ripe, hanging in beautiful purple clusters on the vines, but they had been trained high on the trellis and though the fox strained and jumped he could not reach even the lowest branches.

At last, quite tired out, he turned crossly away muttering; “Who wants grapes like those, anyway. Anyone can see they are as sour as green lemons.”

### **The Lion, the Deer and the Hare**

A Lion found a hare asleep in the grass one day. He was just going to gobble it up when a deer ran past.

“That would make a better dinner than the hare,” he said, and he set off after the deer as fast as he could. He chased it for several miles but it was too quick for him and it escaped.

“Oh well, I’ll have to eat the hare after all,” said the lion, making his way back to the grassy place where he had found it.

The hare had disappeared.

“I suppose it serves me right for letting him go and trying to get something better,” said the lion hungrily to himself.

# Fables

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Retell the fables in three parts. Then state the moral of each fable. (*email to mmyler by 4/13/20*)

## The Two Mules

First... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Moral of the story... \_\_\_\_\_

## The Fox and the Grapes

First... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Moral of the story... \_\_\_\_\_

## The Lion, the Deer and the Hare

First... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then... \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Moral of the story... \_\_\_\_\_