

**Fable: The Turtle and the Rabbit**

Adapted from the Traditional

CCSS Anchor Reading Standard 1. **Read closely** to determine what the text says **explicitly** and to **make logical inferences** from it; **cite specific textual evidence** when writing or speaking to **support conclusions** drawn from the text.

The Rabbit was once boasting of his speed before the other animals. "I have never yet been beaten," said he, "when I put forth my full speed. I challenge any one here to race with me. I am the best."

The Turtle said quietly, "I accept your challenge. I am tired of your bragging. I am confident that I can beat you."

"That is a good joke," said the Rabbit ; "I could dance around you all the way. You will never be able to speed past me. You will not get the victory."

"Keep your boasting till you've beaten me," answered the Turtle. "Shall we race? I know that I can defeat you."

So a course was set up for the race. The path was curved and the ground was rocky.

The Rabbit darted speedily almost out of sight at once, but soon stopped and, believing that the Turtle could never catch him, lay down by some bushes at the top of a hill to have a nap. The Turtle never for a moment stopped, but went on with a slow but steady pace straight to the end of the course.

When the Rabbit awoke from his nap, he saw the Turtle just near the winning post. The Rabbit ran as fast as he could, but it was too late. He saw the Turtle had reached the goal. He was very surprised. He had never lost a race before.

"Ha, ha," laughed the Turtle's friend the owl. "I knew that Turtle would win. Turtle is strong and steady. You are fast but you don't take time to think. I do. That's why people say owls are wise birds."

Then the Rabbit said, \_\_\_\_\_.

- What do you think the Rabbit said? Why do you think that?
- What do you think happened next? Why do you think that?
- What would have happen if the Owl challenged the rabbit to race? Why do you think that?