

The Hare and the Tortoise

Name: _____ Date: _____

One day, a conceited hare was making fun of a tortoise for his extreme slowness. "Do you ever actually get anywhere?" he asked mockingly with a laugh. Unfazed, the tortoise responded, "Yes, I manage to arrive at my destination faster than you might expect. I'll compete against you in a race to demonstrate this."

The hare was amused by the tortoise's proposition to engage in a competition of speed, but he accepted the challenge for the sheer entertainment of it. The two rivals agreed on the Fox as an impartial judge who would determine the distance and commence the race.

As soon as the race began, the hare darted swiftly out of view, while the tortoise plodded along methodically at his usual pace. To emphasize just how preposterous it was for the tortoise to imagine keeping up, the overconfident hare decided to take a nap until his rival eventually passed by.

Meanwhile, the tortoise persisted unwaveringly onward. After some time, he successfully crept past the snoozing hare. But the carefree hare continued slumbering, only waking when the tortoise was nearly at the finish line. The hare sprinted as rapidly as he could, but it was too late to best the tortoise who won despite the odds.

Story Questions

1. What does conceited mean? Why does this describe the hare?

2. Why did the hare accept the challenge to race the tortoise?

3. How did the hare feel when the tortoise asked to race him?

4. What lesson does the fable teach us?

Use in a Sentence

Write 2-3 sentences using 3-4 of the following keywords from the story:

conceited, rival, commence, preposterous, unwaveringly
