



A Lesson on The Turtle and the Rabbit by Emily Poole

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Reading, vocabulary, writing

Lesson Description: The goal of this lesson is to allow students to practice their reading skills, writing skills and learn new vocabulary words while reading the story of "The Turtle and the Rabbit." The lesson allows students to critically read the text to understand what morals are and how having too much pride can affect the outcome of a situation. The discussion questions and writing activity allow students to think from the authors point of view and allow students to give their own opinions on the story. The lesson lets students focus on the point the author is trying to make rather than a long reading passage. This gives students the opportunity to look for key words in the text that help describe the Turtle and the Rabbits points of view.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.2: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.

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Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

Instructions: Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

The Turtle and the Rabbit

by

Content: 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 fixed and a start was made. The Rabbit darted almost?out of sight at once, but soon stopped and, believing that the Turtle could?never catch him, lay down by the wayside 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.

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Task 1: Vocabulary

Instructions: Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

Q: 1 WordPhrase: boasting **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The Rabbit was once boasting of his speed before the other animals." What does the word "boasting" mean?

- A: excessive pride
- B: excessive modesty
- C: excessive shyness
- D: excessive humility

Question: Which sentence is using "boast" correctly?

- A: We were offended by his boast that he would easily beat us.
 - B: The boy is boasting because he is shy.
 - C: When she dropped her bag she was boasting.
 - D: She was boasting to show she was tired.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: Defeat **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the question "Shall we race? I know that I can defeat you.? What does "defeat" mean?

- A: Winning for the Turtle
- B: Failure for the Turtle
- C: Sidetrack
- D: Sleep

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "defeat" correctly?

- A: She defeated me so she lost.
 - B: Strong woman will cry, but never admit defeat.
 - C: If I win at something, it means someone defeated me.
 - D: She was so happy that she was defeated!
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: Evident **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the last line of the story what does the word "evident" mean?

- A: Concealed
- B: Unclear
- C: Clearly noticeable
- D: Secret

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "evident" correctly?

- A: It was evident that the windows needed cleaning
 - B: I am evident when I drop my purse
 - C: She wasn't sure of her decision so she was evident.
 - D: It was evident to see in the muddy water.
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Q: 4 WordPhrase: Confident **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word confident mean in this story?

- A: Sure of
- B: Unsure
- C: Confused
- D: Angry

Question: Which sentence uses confident correctly?

- A: I am confident that the turtle will win
 - B: I am confident when I drop my purse
 - C: I am confident when someone makes me mad
 - D: If i am insecure then I am confident.
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Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - Moral of the Story

What should you, as the student, learn from this story?

2 - Turtle or Rabbit?

Which character do you think learned the most from this race and why?

3 - Main Point

What do you believe the main point of the story is?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 500 words essay on What this story means to you and how you plan to change in order for it to work.... Make sure to provide specific examples.

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