



A Lesson on The Turtle and the Rabbit by Andrea Cooke

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours 15 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Writing, Vocabulary

Lesson Description: During this lesson students will learn reading skills, vocabulary, critical thinking, and reading comprehension.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2: Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3: Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

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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: darted **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author in our story says "The Rabbit darted almost out of sight at once..." What does the word "darted" mean in this sentence?

- A:** To move suddenly
- B:** To look at
- C:** To walk
- D:** To skip

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "darted" correctly in relation to our story?

- A:** The sloth darted down the tree.
 - B:** The child darted down the hill.
 - C:** It darted back toward her
 - D:** The slug darted to the leaf.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: steady **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author in our story says "slow but steady pace straight to the end..." What does the word steady mean in this sentence?

- A:** Not moving suddenly
- B:** To move fast
- C:** To rest
- D:** To jump

Question: Choose the correct use of the word in the sentence that uses the word "steady" correctly in relation to our story.

- A:** We kept a steady pace.
 - B:** The road was long and steady
 - C:** He had steady nerves.
 - D:** She held the boat steady.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: course **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story says "So a course was fixed and a start was made." What does the word "coarse" mean in this sentence?

- A:** A lesson in school
- B:** A path
- C:** Rough in texture
- D:** Work

Question: Choose the correct use of the word "coarse" in a sentence with the same meaning.

- A:** The coarse through the jungle was exciting.
 - B:** The sand at the beach is very coarse.
 - C:** He dug through the coarse material.
 - D:** The coarse subject was easy.
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Q: 4 WordPhrase: goal **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story says "He saw the Turtle had reached the goal." What does the word "goal" mean in this sentence?

- A:** A cage or a basket
- B:** A point marking the end of the race
- C:** A type of game
- D:** A person's ambition or effort

Question: Choose the correct use of the word "goal" in a sentence with the same meaning.

- A:** The ball soared over the goal.
 - B:** He was a goal keeper.
 - C:** They finished at the end of the goal.
 - D:** Her main goal was to become a teacher
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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 and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - Identify and Describe

Identify and describe the character traits of the rabbit and the character of the turtle.

2 - Author's Purpose

What do you think the moral of the story is?

3 - Prior Knowledge

What do you know about rabbits?? What do you know about turtles?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write a 250 word minimum reflection of? the moral or lesson to be learned from the passage.? Provide in text support from the story.??

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