



A Lesson on The Turtle and the Rabbit by Renee West

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Vocabulary, Reading, Writing, Critical thinking

Lesson Description: This lesson is designed to help students better their reading comprehension alongside sharpening their vocabulary skills while also forming opinions and critical thinking on the passage. The students will learn new vocabulary that is presented in the passage, have a class discussion to better enhance their thinking skills and at the end of the lesson they will enhance their writing skills by completing a short essay on the topic.

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

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

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.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4a: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

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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:** 2

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

- A: To be unsure
- B: To be upset
- C: To brag
- D: To tease

Question: Use the term boasting correctly in a sentence.

- A: Sally is sad she lost the spelling bee and is boasting her loss.
 - B: Jim has won many trophies in baseball and loves boasting his talent.
 - C: Jake is behind his class on reading and is boasting.
 - D: Timmy is unsure which ice cream flavor to pick and is boasting about it.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: darted **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "The Rabbit darted almost out of sight at once..." What does the term darted mean?

- A: To not finish something
- B: To bring to a stop
- C: To do something slowly
- D: To do something quickly

Question: Use the term darted correctly in a sentence.

- A: The girl wasn't feeling well and darted to class.
 - B: The boy loves ice cream and darted towards the ice cream truck.
 - C: The boy did not want to get out of bed and darted to breakfast.
 - D: The girl was very sleepy and darted to dinner.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: Challenge **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "I accept your challenge." What is the correct definition for the term challenge?

- A: Something that is hard
- B: Something that is easy
- C: Something that is confusing
- D: Something that is sad

Question: Use the term challenge in a sentence.

- A: Katie loves to learn about cats so the information is challenging to her.
 - B: Ronald has been studying dinosaurs for awhile so the subject is challenging.
 - C: Charlie is new at running so it is challenging.
 - D: Susie is in a softball league so playing softball is challenging.
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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 - Boasting

Do you think bthe rabbit was right to boast his speed and talk himself up before the race?

2 - Morals

Explain what you think is the moral of the story

3 - Lessons

Do you think the rabbot learned his lesson?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post here 300 words on what you beleive is the lesson from this story. Use details from the story to complete your answer.

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