



A Lesson on The Turtle and the Rabbit by Amanda Grimes

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Writing, Vocabulary

Lesson Description: The goal of this lesson is for students to practice their reading skills, vocabulary, critical thinking, and reading comprehension. Students will be asked to read a short passage and respond in discussion questions that will require students to reread the passage. This lesson allows students to read the text to understand the moral of the story. Students will reread the passage looking for context clues to find the meaning of certain words.

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.3.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

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.

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

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1b: Provide reasons that support the opinion.

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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 in this sentence?

- A: Shame
- B: Brag
- C: Lack
- D: Modest

Question: Which sentence uses the word "boasting" correctly?

- A: He is always boasting about his achievements
 - B: Boasting is a great quality to have
 - C: When someone is boasting they want people to know how badly they did
 - D: The girl is boasting about how mad she is
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: Challenge **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: When the rabbit said " I challenge anyone here to race with me" What does the word challenge mean?

- A: Win
- B: Answer
- C: Test
- D: Dare

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

- A: I challenge you to a dance off
 - B: I challenge you to clean the dishes
 - C: I challenge
 - D: I challenge
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: Victory **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: When the rabbit said " you will not get the victory" what does the word "victory" mean?

- A: Failure
- B: Win
- C: Loss
- D: Forfeit

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

- A: Victory is not enjoyable
 - B: Losing the race was a total victory
 - C: The girl ran for class president and she won and it was a great victory
 - D: What a victory for the actress when she lost the award
- =====

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Defeat **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: When the turtle says " I know I can defeat you" what does the word defeat mean?

- A: Success
- B: Accomplishment
- C: Achievement
- D: Beat

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

- A: What a defeat it felt like when the soccer team lost the championship game.
 - B: It was a defeat when the president won the election.
 - C: It was a defeat when the football player made a touchdown.
 - D: Our defeat made us champions
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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 - Why did the turtle...

Why did the turtle want to race the rabbit? Use information from the passage to support your answer.

2 - How did the rabbit feel?

How did the rabbit feel at the end of the story? How is this different from his feelings at the beginning of the story?

3 - Moral of the story

What is the moral of the story? Explain your answer.

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Write 2 paragraphs on the meaning of this folktale. What was the message of The turtle and the rabbit? What did you think about the rabbits attitude?throughout the story? What was the purpose of this story?

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