

## The Hare and the Tortoise

The Hare was once bragging about his speed before the other animals. “I have never yet been beaten when I put forth my full speed,” said he. “I challenge anyone here to race with me.”

The Tortoise said quietly, “I will race you.”

“That is a good joke,” said the Hare. “I could dance around you all the way.”

“Keep your boasting until you’ve beaten me,” answered the Tortoise. “Shall we race?”

So a track was fixed, and a starting point was decided. The Hare dashed almost out of sight at once. He soon stopped, however, to show his dislike for the Tortoise and lay down to have a nap. The Tortoise plodded on and plodded on. When the Hare awoke from his nap, he saw the Tortoise almost to the finish line. The Hare could not catch up in time to save the race. Ashamed, the Hare crept away while all the animals at the finish line praised the winner.

*Moral: Slow and steady wins the race.*