

# The Hare and the Tortoise

By Aesop

A hare was making fun of a tortoise one day for being so slow.

“Do you ever get anywhere?” he asked with a mocking laugh.

“Yes,” replied the tortoise, “and I get there sooner than you think. I’ll run you a race and prove it.”

The hare was amused at the idea of running a race with a tortoise, but for the fun of the thing he agreed. So the fox, who had consented to act as judge, marked the distance and started the runners off.

The hare was soon far out of sight, and to make the tortoise feel silly for trying to race a very fast animal like a hare, he lay down beside the course to take a nap until the tortoise should catch up.

The tortoise meanwhile kept going slowly but steadily, and, after a time, passed the place where the hare was sleeping. But the hare slept on very peacefully; and when at last he did wake up, the tortoise was near the goal. The hare now ran his swiftest, but he could not overtake the tortoise in time.

*Moral: The race is not always to the swift.*

1. Why was the hare upset with the tortoise in the beginning of the story?

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2. The tortoise challenged the hare to a \_\_\_\_\_

3. Who won the challenge and why?

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