

# Definition:

A short tale used to teach a moral lesson, often with animals as characters.

# Characteristics:

- •The story is very brief.
- Main characters are usually animals
- Animals behave like humans
- The moral is usually stated in one sentence at the end of the fable



# Tips:

The reader must pay attention to the title, which will cue who or what to pay attention to.

The reader reads the moral and understands how the events of the story lead to the moral.

Reader should consider how the moral might apply to his/her own life.



## The Frog and the Ox

A young frog, amazed at the huge size of an ox, rushed to tell her father about the monster. The father frog, trying to impress his child, puffed himself up to look like the ox. The young frog said it was much bigger. Again the father puffed himself up. The young frog insisted the monster was even bigger. The father puffed and puffed - and burst!



### Click for the correct moral.....

Persuasion is better than force.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

Make hay while the sun shines.

Small frignds can be powerful allies.

Samatimae wa

Pon't just follow the crowd.

Liars may give themselves away.

Sometimes we do not see our own strengths.

### The Monkey and the Dolphin

A monkey fell from a ship and was rescued by a dolphin. The dolphin asked if he lived nearby. The monkey lied and said that he did. "Do you know Seriphos?" asked the dolphin. The monkey, thinking Seriphos was a person's name, boasted that it was his best friend. As Seriphos was a town, the dolphin knew the monkey was lying, so he dived, leaving him to swim to shore.

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## The Fox and the Old Lion

An old lion sent out word that he was ill and said that he would like the animals and birds to visit him. Most went but fox did not. Finally the lion sent for him, asking why he had not come to see him. The wily fox replied, "I had planned to, but I noticed that although many tracks led into your cave, none led out."

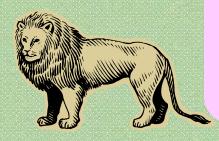
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# The Fox and the Grapes

One hot summer's day a Fox was strolling through an orchard till he came to a bunch of Grapes just ripening on a vine which had been trained over a lofty branch. "Just the thing to quench my thirst," he said. Drawing back a few paces, he took a run and a jump, and just missed the bunch. Turning round again with a One, Two, Three, he jumped up, but with no greater success. Again and again he tried after the tempting morsel, but at last had to give it up, and walked away with his nose in the air, saying: "I am sure they are sour."

It's easy to hate what we can't have.

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## The Lion and the Mouse

Once a lion trapped a mouse under its large paw. The mouse pleaded for it's life, so the lion let it go. Later the lion became entangled in a hunter's net and roared in distress. The mouse rushed to help. "You're too small to help," said the lion. But the mouse nibbled at the net until the lion was free.

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## The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

A Wolf found great difficulty in getting at the sheep owing to the vigilance of the shepherd and his dogs. But one day it found the skin of a sheep that had been flayed and thrown aside, so it put it on over its own pelt and strolled down among the sheep. The Lamb that belonged to the sheep, whose skin the Wolf was wearing, began to follow the Wolf in the Sheep's clothing; so, leading the Lamb a little apart, he soon made a meal off her, and for some time he succeeded in deceiving the sheep, and enjoying hearty meals.

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Appearances are deceptive.

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