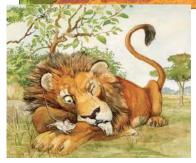
Remember how different parts of the earth experience different types of weather? In most of the United States, there are four seasons and each season has distinct characteristics, or clearly different ways to describe them.

Who can identify the proper sequence the four seasons of the year are experienced in the United States and tell some of the characteristics of each?



Do you remember any of the fables we read earlier in the year? A fable is a story that teaches the reader a lesson. There was a man named Aesop who lived in Greece a very long time ago who wrote many fables. In Aesop's time, people didn't have storybooks, so they told stories aloud to one another. Stories were passed down from parents to children and from neighbor to neighbor for thousands of years. Today, stories can be told aloud or read in books.



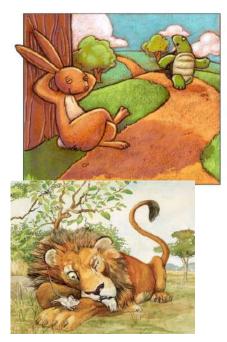


Aesop was a great storyteller. He was known for collecting and retelling many short stories called fables. Fables often have animals as characters in the story, instead of people. When an animal or thing acts like a person in a story, the writing technique the author is using is called personification. Say personification. Personification is when animals in a story talk and act like people





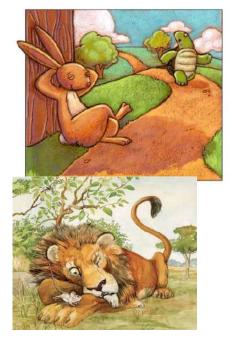
Like all fables, Aesop's fables were intended to teach a lesson, called "the moral of the story." Repeat the name Aesop. What is a the lesson taught in a fable called? The moral of a story is the lesson the writer wanted you to learn.



Today you are going to hear the story of "The Grasshopper and the Ants" one of Aesop's many fables. This story takes place throughout the different seasons of the year.

Listen carefully so you can identify the different seasons and learn what happens in the story. I will want you to know the moral or lesson the grasshopper learns at the end of the fable.

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In a field on a fine summer's day, a grasshopper was hopping about, singing and dancing and enjoying himself.

Nearby, a group of ants was hard at work. They had build their house underground, and they were filling it with food to last them through the long, cold winter ahead.



They were filling the house with lots of food during the summer, so that they would have enough to eat throughout the entire winter.

"Why not come and play with me?" asked the grasshopper. "Why bother about winter? We have plenty of food now. Come, leave your work. Now's the time to dance and sina."



But the ants paid no attention to the grasshopper. They kept working hard, all day and every day.

Why do you think the ants are working so hard?



But not the grasshopper. All summer long while the ants worked, he jumped about the field and danced and sang. Sometimes he'd sit for hours and listen to the humming of the bees, or watch the butterflies flitting about, or take long, lazy naps in the warm sun. And when he work up, he would sing this song:



The summertime's the time for me, For then I'm happy as can be. I watch the butterflies and bees, As they fly around as they please. Oh, summertime's the time for me! For I'm as happy as can be.



Yes, the grasshopper was a happy fellow--but he never thought about the future. He never thought about what would happen later in time, in the future; he only thought about what was happening right now, in the present.



One day the grasshopper woke up and felt a chill in the air. Then he saw the leaves turn red, gold, and brown, and fall from the trees.
Then the days kept getting colder, and soon, the grasshopper saw no butterflies or bees, and the fields where he liked to sing and dance turned bare and hard.



Bare means not covered. The leaves fell off the trees and the grass in the fields dried. What season of the year is it now?



Soon, the cold days of winter were upon him, and the grasshopper was freezing and hungry. He came to the ants' house and knocked on the door.

Why do you think the grasshopper is knocking at the ants' door?



"What do you want?" asked the ants.

"May I come in and share your food?" asked the grasshopper.

"What did you do all summer?" asked the ants. "Didn't you put away some food to use now?"



Didn't you save food during the summer to use now?

"No," said the shivering grasshopper. The word shivering means he was shaking from the cold. Show me what the grasshopper looked like when he was shivering. In what season do people tend to shiver?

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I didn't think of that while I was singing and dancing in the sun."

"So," said the ants meanly, "you sang and danced all summer while we worked. Well, now you can sing and dance while we eat!"



Was this a nice thing for the ants to say to the grasshopper? Would you have helped the grasshopper if you were the ants?



And as the hungry grasshopper walked away, he sang this song:

Next time I'll work as well as dance,

Then I'll be ready, like the ants!



Comprehension Questions:

riteral

PLease answer in complete sentences.

What is the season at the beginning of the fable? What season comes after summer? What is the season at the end of the fable?

Comprehension Questions:

PLease answer in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

What changes happen to the weather and the trees in autumn after summer ends?

Comprehension Questions:

PLease answer in OMPLETE SENTENCES.

Describe the grasshopper at the beginning of the fable, during the summer.

Comprehension Questions:

PLease answer in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

Describe the ants at the beginning of the fable, during the summer.

Comprehension Questions:

PLease answer in complete sentences.

In the fable, who is thinking about what would happen later in time, in the future: the grasshopper or the ants?

Comprehension Questions:

PLease answer in COMPLETE SENTENCES

What happened to the grasshopper at the end of the fable? Why?

Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

PLease answer in complete sentences.

What do you think the moral or the lesson of the story is?

Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

PLease answer in complete sentences.

Were the ants right to turn the grasshopper away? What would you have done?



Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

The Grasshopper & The Ants
In the read aloud you heard, "A group of ants had built
their house underground and they were filling it with food
to last them through the long, cold winter ahead."

Say the word last with me. Whisper last to the ceiling. Whisper last to your neighbor. Let's clap it out.

The word **last** has many meanings. In this case, last means to have enough of something for a certain period of time.

A box of new crayons can last the school year, or a song can last five minutes.

Tell about something you know that can last for a certain amount of time, like a week or a day. Try to use the word last when you tell about it.

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"Something I know that can last a week is..."
"Something I know that can last a day is..."

What's the word we have been talking about?

Let's clap it out.

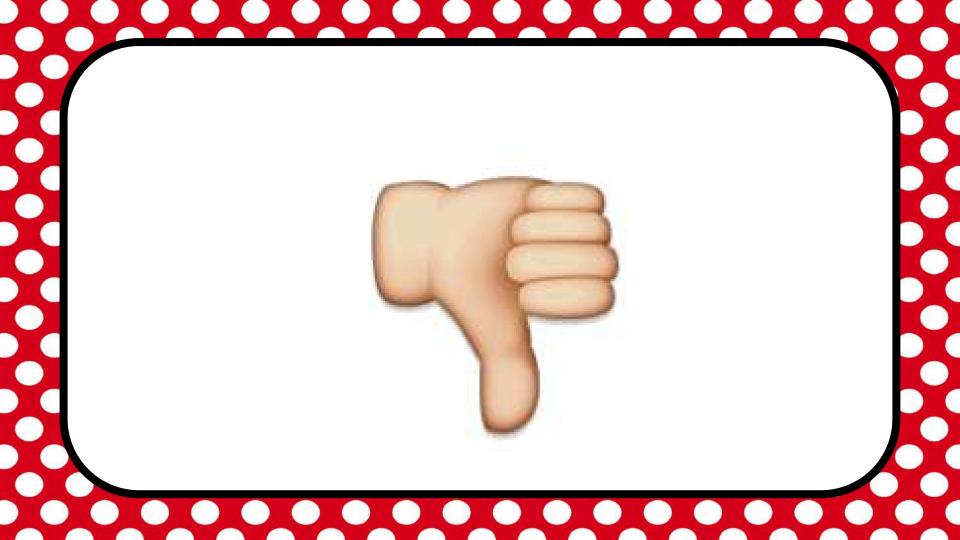
I am going to name some things. If the things I say can last, put your thumbs up. If they cannot last, thumbs down.



Thumbs Up = Lasts Thumbs Down = Won't last



an ice cube on the sidewalk during the summer

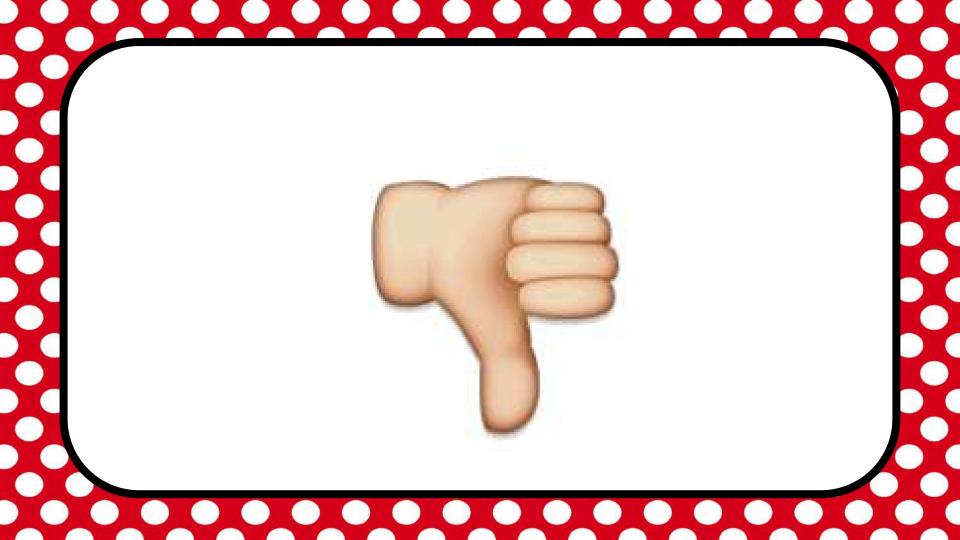




Thumbs Up = Lasts Thumbs Down = Won't last



one can of cat food for the cat for the entire week

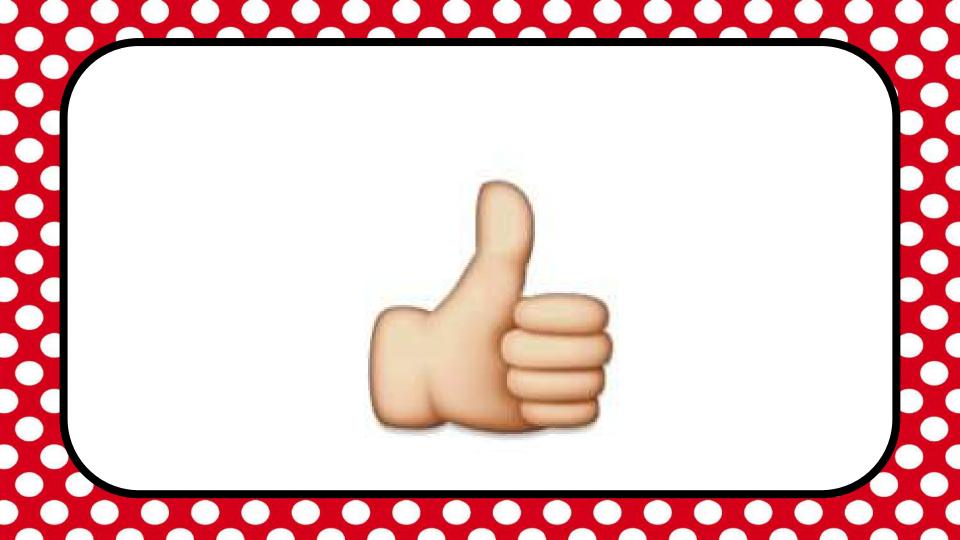




Thumbs Up = Lasts Thumbs Down = Won't last



a new pair of shoes for a week

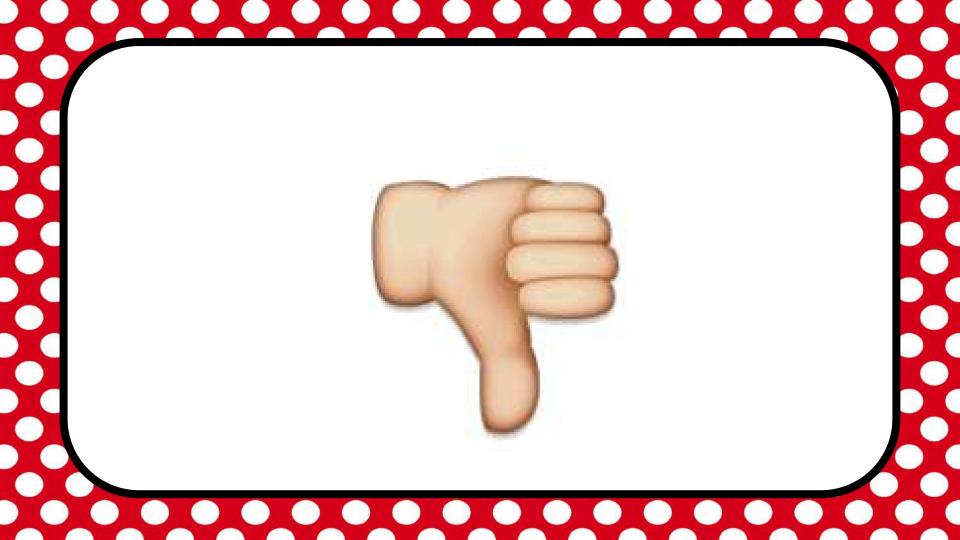




Thumbs Up = Lasts Thumbs Down = Won't last



two sheets of paper for the school year





Thumbs Up = Lasts
Thumbs Down = Won't last



a video or DVD that I can watch many times

