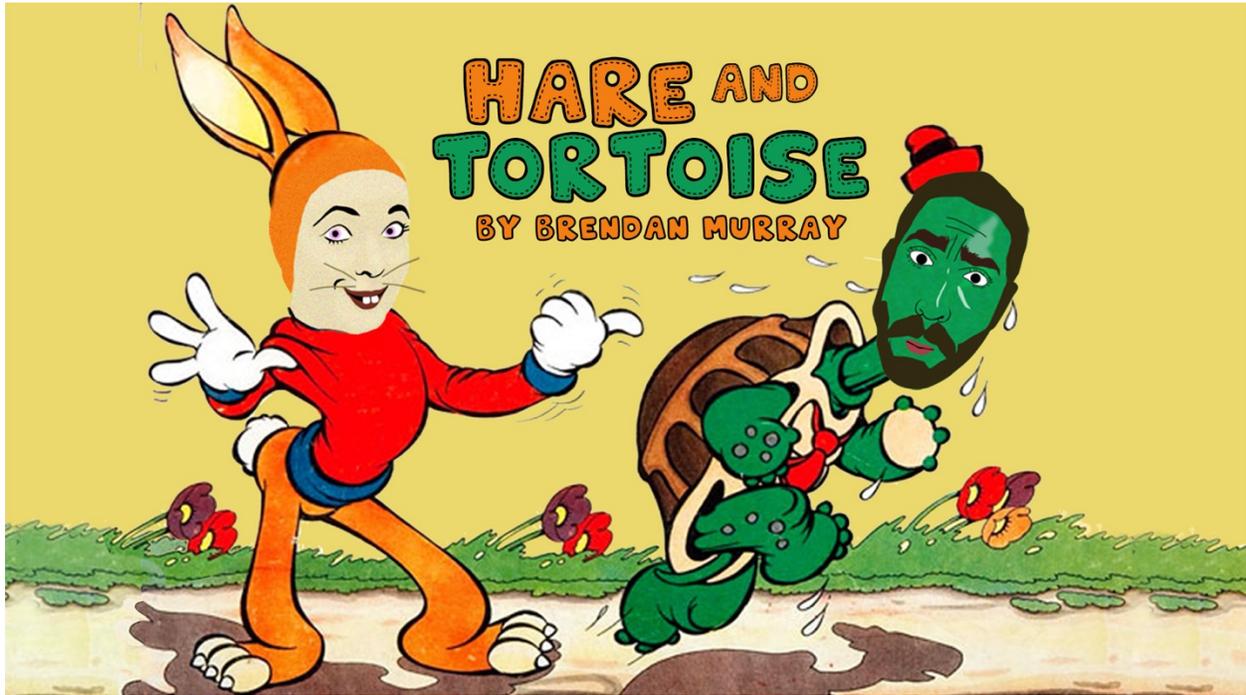


EASTERN
SIERRA
ARTS
ALLIANCE



Educational Study Guide

This Study Guide is available for download at MammothLakesRep.org

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Measure U, Tambour Foundation, Mammoth Elementary PTO

Hare & Tortoise

By Brendan Murray

Directed by Doug Oliphant
Starring Kate Faye & Sean Faye
Costumes by Sustaita Gallegos
Original Music by John Stratton

The Cast

Hare – Kate Faye
Tortoise – Sean Faye

About The Play

An adaptation of Aesop's famous fairy tale, *Hare & Tortoise* challenges and celebrates what it means to grow up. Hare must learn to be present in the moment, let go of the outcome and enjoy the journey of the seasons as she prepares to race her friend Tortoise.

About the Playwright

Brendan Murray grew up in Salford, Lancashire, the youngest of five children. Following a degree in Drama he trained at Drama Studio London and worked in regional repertory, commercial touring, fringe and young people's theatre. His teaching includes work for The Department of Education, The Central School of Speech and Drama, Sheffield Hallam University, Rose Bruford College, The Actors' Institute and Drama Studio London, where he is a tutor and Associate Director. Brendan has directed productions across Britain, and he is the author for more than 30 plays for young audiences. His work has been produced throughout the UK and in Ireland, Holland, Japan, Australia, Sweden, Austria, Germany, Israel, Switzerland, Mexico and the USA.

WHAT IS A FABLE?

Noun – A short story typically with animals as characters, conveying a moral.

WHAT IS “MORAL”?

A Moral is a message that is conveyed or a lesson to be learned from a story or event.

AESOP’S FABLES

Aesop's Fables, or the Aesopica, is a collection of fables credited to Aesop, a slave and storyteller believed to have lived in ancient Greece between 620 and 564 BCE.

Aesop's Fables are the world's best-known collection of morality tales. The fables, numbering 725, were originally told from person-to-person as much for entertainment purposes but largely as a means for relaying or teaching a moral or lesson

Why do **animals** feature so prominently in **Aesop’s fables**?

According to our ancient sources, the **fable's** use of **animals** primarily serves to underscore the fictionality and lightness of the stories. The ridiculousness of the **humanized animal** allows the **fable** to make its point without boring or insulting an addressee. **Animals** are often used in **fables** in a way that is easily understood because it is always the same. They keep the same characteristics from story to story.

Moral of the Story

“Hard Work, Slow and Steady Wins the Race”

Characteristics of a Fable

- **Fables are fiction.**
 - **Fables are short and have few characters.**
 - **Characters are often animals with human attributes.**
- They have strengths and weaknesses and are in some sort of conflict.**
- **Fables are just one story.**
 - **The setting can be anywhere.**
 - **A lesson or moral is taught and is sometimes stated at the end of the story.**

GENERAL COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Where does the story take place?

Who are the characters?

Who is your favorite character and why?

Which character don't you like and why?

What are the problems the characters face?

How do they solve these problems?

How did the tortoise win the race even though he is slower than the hare?

How does the story end?

What lesson does this story teach you?

There are similar stories about competitions between animals, notably the Mayan folk tale "The Rabbit and the Crab."

EXTENSION QUESTIONS

What other stories does this remind you of?

How does this story relate to your own life?

Write an alternate ending for the story.

Write your own version of what happens next.

Science - research activity - Use the internet or library to research the land speed of animals.

Research tortoises and hares -

Why can the hare run so fast?

How fast can it run? (Can it run faster than a person? Faster than a car?)

How does a tortoise move?

How fast does a tortoise run?

How fast does a human run?

Changes Through the Seasons

Ask each student to draw a picture of what their life looks like in each season. They may choose to include: their clothes, the weather, their location (school, vacation), holidays, their friends and family, their interests

Please **number the following events** in order from what happened first to what happened last in "The Tortoise and the Hare": (1 is what happened first)

- ___The Hare took a nap.
- ___The Tortoise beat the Hare to the finish line.
- ___The Hare was far ahead of the Tortoise.
- ___The Hare challenged Tortoise to a race.

In which season do we first plant seeds from them to grow into carrots. (circle the correct answer)

Summer **Fall** **Winter** **Spring**

The main characters in "The Tortoise and the Hare" are a turtle and a rabbit.

Circle if this is: **True OR False**

The characters in most fables are: (circle the correct answer)

- a.) Adults
- b.) Dogs
- c.) Animals
- d.) Children

Fables are very long stories that tell a lesson. Circle if this is: **True OR False**

The lesson in the story "Hare and Tortoise" is: (circle the correct answer)

- a.) Slow and steady wins the race
- b.) It is important to be fast at everything you do.
- c.) In a race, never take a nap.

Slow and Steady Wins the Race!

Draw a picture of a time you really “stuck to it”!



Now write about what you drew.

GIVE A LITTLE RESPECT!

- **Ask students to help you explain what the word respect means. Ask them to provide you with examples of when they showed someone respect, or someone showed them respect. Teacher may need to prompt by asking questions such as, “How does it feel when a stranger holds the door open for you?”, “Why is it important to tell your loved ones the truth?”, “Why do we always take good care of our belongings and other peoples’ belongings?”**

How can we show respect for one another in the class? How can we show respect for people at home and in the community? How can we show respect for the environment?

The Shape of Respect – Respect Words and Situations

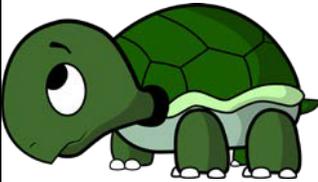
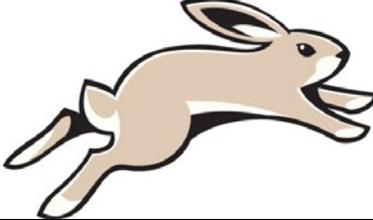
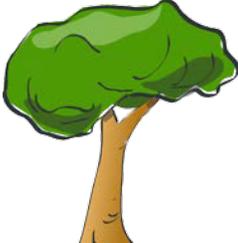
Words Associated with “Respect”:

**Appreciation Awe Consideration
Dignity Recognition Honor**

Respect Situations:

- **Eating a snack on a nature walk and putting the garbage in a bin or in your backpack (respect for environment)**
- **Asking a classmate if you can borrow a coloring pencil, saying “Please” and “Thank you”, and the returning the coloring pencil to its place (respect for friends)**
- **Listening while the teacher is talking and when a classmate is presenting (respect for teachers and classmates)**
- **Helping to do dishes/clean up at home (respect for family)**
- **Brushing your teeth and your hair (respect for self)**

Living Forest – Character Cards

<p>Fox</p>  A cartoon illustration of a fox with orange fur, a white chest and tail tip, and black legs. It is standing and looking to the left.	<p>Bear</p>  A cartoon illustration of a brown bear standing and looking to the right.
<p>Squirrel</p>  A cartoon illustration of a brown squirrel sitting and looking forward.	<p>Tortoise</p>  A cartoon illustration of a green tortoise with a large shell, standing and looking to the left.
<p>Hare</p>  A cartoon illustration of a brown hare running to the right with its mouth open.	<p>Raccoon</p>  A cartoon illustration of a grey raccoon with a black and white striped tail, standing and looking forward.
<p>Spider</p>  A cartoon illustration of a black spider with a large, smiling face, hanging from a thin white thread.	<p>Flower</p>  A cartoon illustration of a stem with three blue flowers with yellow centers.
<p>Tree</p>  A cartoon illustration of a tree with a brown trunk and a green, rounded canopy.	<p>Grass</p>  A cartoon illustration of a patch of green grass.

Living Forest

I am a _____ (name of your living thing)

I am also a/an _____
(animal or plant or arachnid)

I have

(what do you look like?)

For food and nourishment, I need

For protection, I

I can _____
(one neat fact)

Living Forest

I am a _____ (name of your living thing)

I am also a/an _____
(animal or plant or arachnid)

I have

(what do you look like?)

For food and nourishment, I need

For protection, I

I can _____
(one neat fact)

Living Forest Workstations

I am also...

Fox: animal

Raccoon: animal

Bear: animal

Squirrel: animal

Hare: animal

Tortoise: animal

Spider: arachnid

Tree: plant

Flower: plant

Grass: plant

I have...

Fox: Whiskers and a fluffy tail

Raccoon: Whiskers and a fluffy tail, black mask on face

Bear: Claws, large, covered in thick hair

Squirrel: Whiskers, a bushy tail and front teeth that never stop growing

Hare: Long back legs and long, black-tipped ears, whiskers

Tortoise: A hard shell for protection; can feel when it is touched

Spider: Two body sections, eight legs and tiny hairs on their feet to help them stick to surfaces

Tree: Usually has a trunk with or without bark, leaves, needles or thorns

Flower: Range in size and colour although contain similar parts

Grass: Narrow leaves that grow from the base of the plant

For food and nourishment, I need...

Fox: Omnivores – eat berries, vegetables, seeds, eggs, small animals

Raccoon: Omnivores – eat nuts, fruits, vegetables, eggs, insects, rodents, fish

Bear: Omnivores – eat plants, vegetables, berries, nuts and meat (fish, deer, elk)

Squirrel: Eat fruits, vegetables, seeds, twigs, small insects, nuts, tree bark

Hare: Herbivore – Eats grass and herbs

Tortoise: Herbivores – eat grass, shrubs, herbs and plants

Spider: Some spiders spin webs to catch prey, such as insects and small animals

Tree: Create food through photosynthesis – using sunlight, air and water

Flower: Create food through photosynthesis – using sunlight, air and water

Grass: Needs sunlight, water and soil to grow

For protection, I...

Fox: Hide their babies in underground dens

Raccoon: Dens in trees, caves, barns and other human-made locations

Bear: Some hibernate (sleep) through the winter in a den because food is scarce

Squirrel: Run away in a zig-zag pattern when chased by a predator

Hare: Thump hind legs to warn other hares that a predator is near

Tortoise: Can hide in their shells when a predator is near

Spider: Pretend to look like ants when threatened by prey

Tree: Can defend themselves from attacking insects by flooding their leaves with chemicals

Flower: Physical defenses such as thorns and spines; closing up or “shrinking”; releasing chemicals

Grass: Can be difficult to completely “kill” grass

] Can...

Fox: Excellent hearing, stinky (scent glands)

Raccoon: Nocturnal – sleep during the day and active at night

Bear: Smart and usually very shy

Squirrel: Fatten up during the winter to survive

Hare: Can run very fast – up to 72 km/h

Tortoise: Can't swim but can hold their breath for a very long time

Spider: Webs are made from silk

Tree: Trees are the longest living organisms on Earth

Flower: Flowers are important because they provide food to pollinators (eg. Bees)

Grass: Over 10,000 types of grass in the world

If you would like to purchase any of the props from the play, we are providing links to purchase them for your children.

Planetarium for stars on ceiling effect:

<https://www.amazon.com/MOKOQI-Projector-Lights-Peacefully-Gift-White/dp/B01KPQIAGE>

Fuzzy pipe cleaners for stage 2 carrot tops:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B083J8VSXQ/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o03_s01?ie=UTF8&psc=1

Full carrots

<https://www.amazon.com/Aspen-Pet-PLUSH-MEDIUM-CARROT/dp/B000RIBC1G>

Kids watering can:

<https://www.amazon.com/Spielstabil-Liter-Watering-Can-Classic/dp/B07B2TSDZ7>

Spinny hat for Tortoise during race:

<https://www.amazon.com/Forum-Novelties-Classic-Propeller-Multi/dp/B0087UHWTC>

Paddle ball

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07F1PRLHZ/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o03_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1

Mini tennis racquets:

<https://www.amazon.com/RuiyiF-Plastic-Racquet-Children-Toddlers/dp/B07RPTWLZ4>

Grass to hang from string for race:

<https://www.amazon.com/Super-Outlet-Hawaiian-Decoration-Birthdays/dp/B013RNIZ3A>

Foam balls

<https://www.amazon.com/VRCLUB-Pieces-Soft-Foam-Balls/dp/B087T2XM2X>

Ice cream cones:

<https://www.amazon.com/Liberty-Imports-Sweet-Treats-Parlor/dp/B015GASGEU>

BACKDROPS

Clouds backdrop

<https://www.amazon.com/Riyidecor-Landscape-Waterproof-Polyester-Decoration/dp/B07VM6F2C1>

Vacation backdrop

<https://www.amazon.com/Ambesonne-Tropical-Relaxation-Polyester-Turquoise/dp/B01DUF9U1Q>

Hill shower curtain (for race):

<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Rustic-Shower-Curtain-Sunrise-Dolomites-Mountains-Greenland-Hillside-Houses-Natural-Life-Fabric-Bathroom-Set-Hooks-Fern-Green-Multicolor-Ambesonne/898911991>

Summer (non-beach):

<https://www.amazon.com/Ambesonne-Watercolor-Abstract-Blossoms-Bathroom/dp/B06XDHMP3W>

Autumn:

<https://www.amazon.com/Ambesonne-Shower-Curtain-Polyester-Included/dp/B00ZPXOBNO>