

## 中年級 1. The Turtle and the Rabbit

One day, a rabbit was boasting about how fast he could run. He was laughing at the turtle for being so slow. Much to the rabbit's surprise, the turtle challenged him to a race. The rabbit thought this was a good joke and accepted the challenge. As the race began, the rabbit ran so fast. The turtle crawled along the road step by step. Soon, the rabbit was far ahead of the slow turtle. The rabbit felt hot and tired. He thought he could win easily. So, he decided to stop and take a rest. After eating a lot of delicious mushrooms, the rabbit lay on some nice and comfortable grass. And soon, he was in a deep sleep.

At the same time, the turtle had been trying his best to move forward. He was slow, but he never stopped, no matter how hot or tired he got. He just kept ongoing.

After a nice long sleep, the rabbit woke up. But he could not see the turtle anywhere because he had slept for too long. He jumped up and ran to the finish line as fast as possible. It was too late. The turtle had already crossed the finish line and won the race.

The rabbit realized, "It's better to be slow than lazy."

## 中年級 2. The Lion and the Mouse

One hot afternoon, a lion lay asleep in the forest. A little mouse ran over its nose and woke him up. The lion laid his huge paw angrily on the tiny creature and wanted to kill him. The mouse cried to the lion, "I didn't mean to offend you. If you can let me go, someday I will surely repay you." The lion laughed, "A little mouse can help a big lion like me?" But he was a generous lion. So, he lifted his paw and let the mouse go. The mouse jumped out and ran away very quickly.

Some days later, the lion was walking in the forest. Suddenly, it got caught in a hunter's net. The lion twisted and rolled in the net. He was very angry and started to roar.

The mouse heard the roaring and ran to help as quickly as possible. He saw the lion in the net and started to break the net with his long teeth. Soon, the mouse chewed the net and made a big hole. Finally, the lion was free.

The mouse said to the lion, "You laughed at me before. But now you see. Even a little mouse can help a lion."

### 中年級 3. The Bear and the Travelers

Kevin and David were friends. One day, they were traveling together. Suddenly, they saw a bear. Before the bear observed them, Kevin climbed quickly onto a tree and tried to hide among the branches. David followed after Kevin, but he was not as nimble as his friend. So, he fell to the ground.

David had no way to escape. He felt very helpless. But soon, he had a plan. He held his breath and pretended to be a dead man. The bear came up and sniffed around David, but David kept perfectly still and held his breath. The bear smelled his nose, ears, and eyes. He thought David was dead, so he went away. As many people say, a bear will not touch a dead body.

Kevin came down from the tree when the bear had left and went to his friend, David. Kevin asked David, "I saw the bear whisper something in your ear. What did he tell you?" David answered seriously, "The bear told me, "Don't travel with a friend if he runs away when you are in danger. A true friend is with you in good times and bad times."