

Once upon a time, there lived two very different animals. One of these animals was a grumpy hare and the other was a very clever and gentle tortoise.

One day, in the middle of summer, Hare and Tortoise met each other.

"Why are you always so slow?" Hare asked Tortoise.

"I like my pace," Tortoise replied. "Besides, being fast isn't always everything!"

"Oh yes it is," Hare said.

The two animals argued for a while, then Tortoise suddenly came up with an idea.

"Listen, Hare," he said. "Why don't we have a race? Let's see who will win. How about over the hill and back?"

Hare roared with laughter! "You want to have a race with me? You haven't got a chance!"

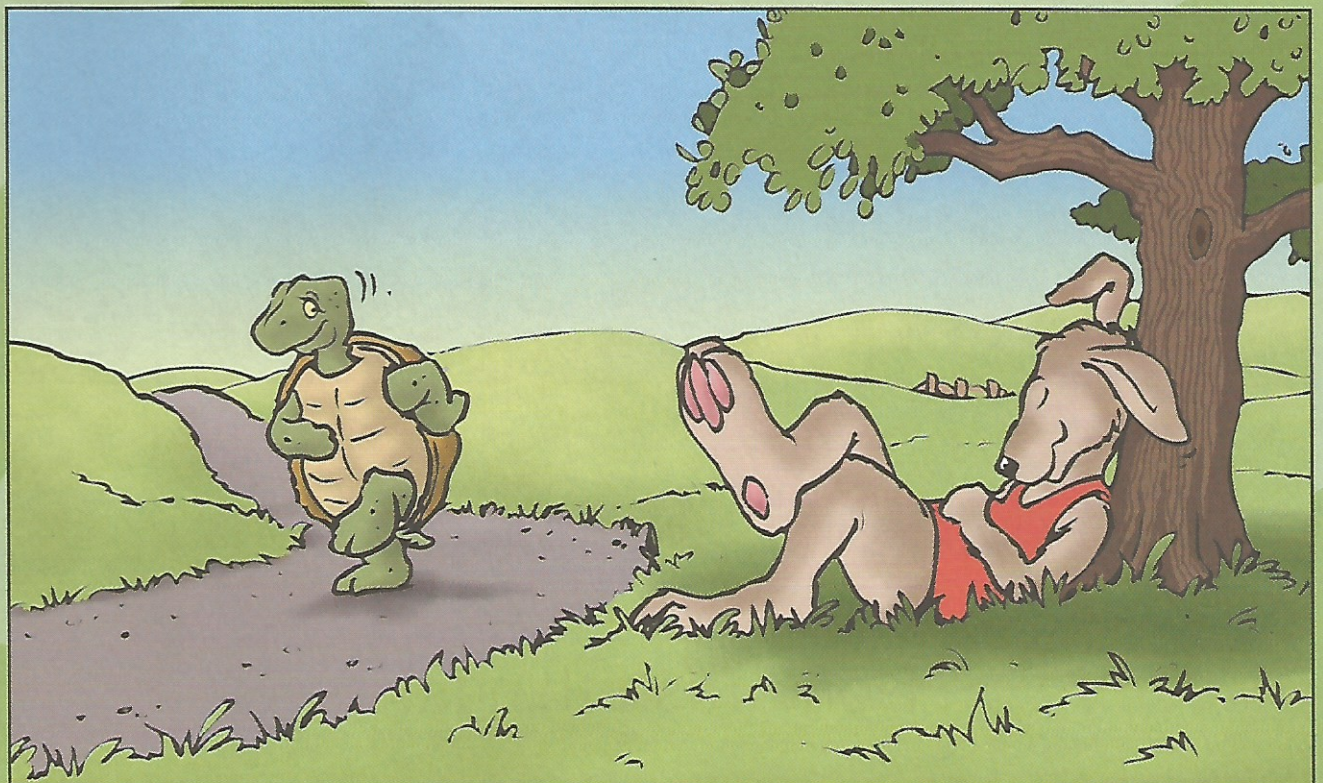
"We'll see," Tortoise smiled.

So the next day Tortoise and Hare met for their race. Hare started running immediately. He went away very fast and it wasn't long before he was way out in front.

"Why am I rushing?" Hare thought to himself.

"That silly, slow tortoise won't have even started yet! I know, I'll sit by this tree and have a rest for a while."

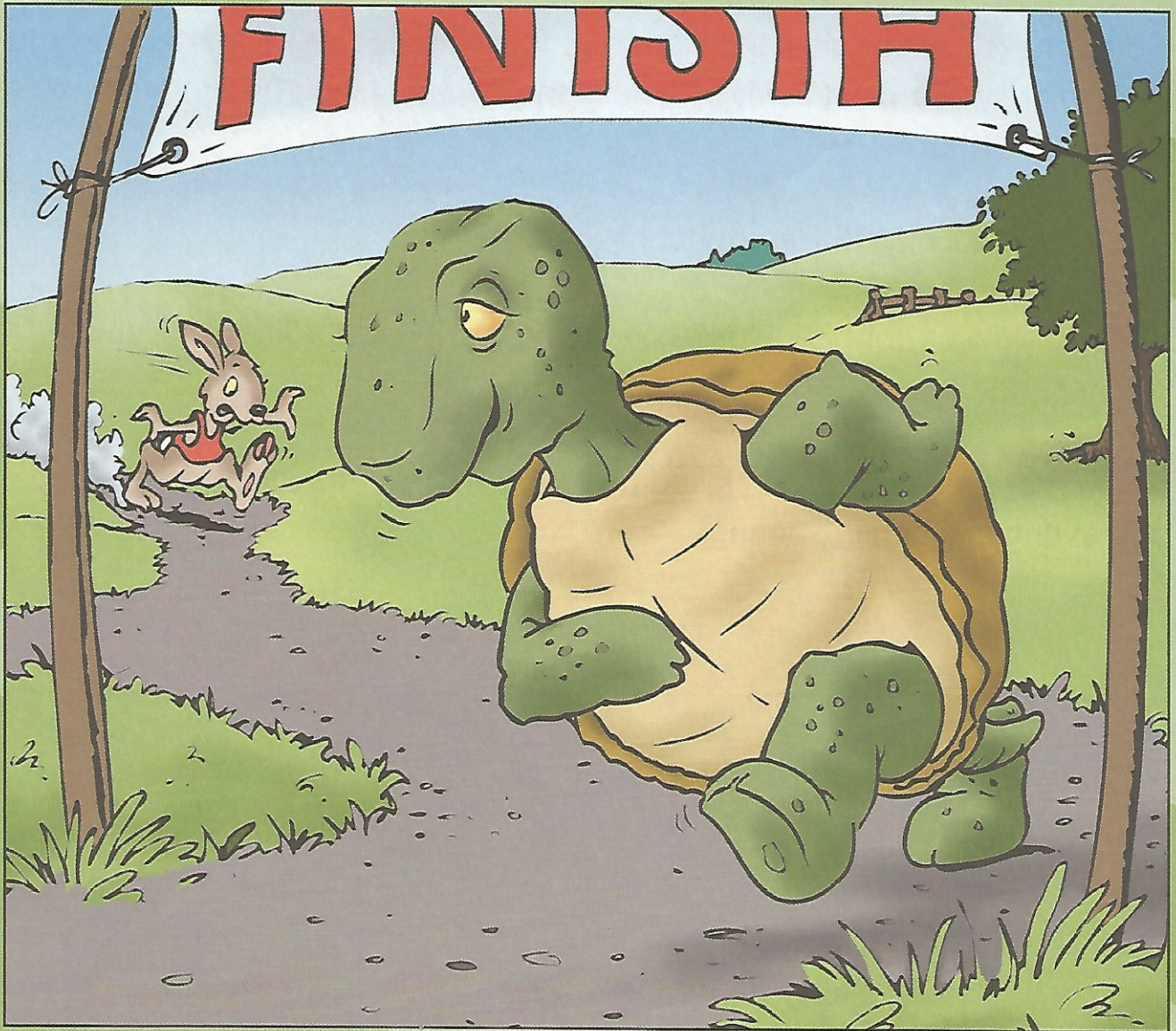
So the hare sat down and closed his eyes. He fell into a very deep sleep and eventually began snoring.



Turn over

Meanwhile, the tortoise was plodding on, and after a very long time he crept past the sleeping hare. Tortoise went on his way, over the hill and back again.

Hare suddenly woke up and tried to race to catch the tortoise up but he'd left it too late. The tortoise had won the race!



The moral of this story is "slow and steady wins the race".

Don't rush things!

Long Writing Task

Now you have read *The Hare and the Tortoise*, you are going to write a similar story, using different animals. Remember in your story that moral is "slow and steady wins the race". Before you write your story, plan what you will write by thinking about:

Your two animals.

1 _____

2 _____

Where they race.

Who wins.

Short Writing Task

Imagine the hare and the tortoise take part in your school sports day.

Write some rules to tell them both how to take part and behave without arguing.

Your first might be:

1 You must do as you are told the first time.

2

3

4

5

6