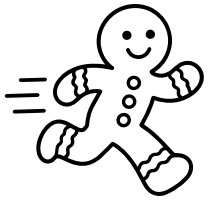
Name _____ Date _____

Runaway Tales

Read both tellings of the tale.

Version 1

The Gingerbread Man



This version is told in the United States. An old woman baked a gingerbread man. When she opened the oven, he jumped out and ran away. “Run, run, as fast as you can! You can’t catch me. I’m the Gingerbread Man!” he called.

He ran past a pig and a horse, and they chased him, but no one could catch him. Then he came to a river. A fox said, “Climb on my back, and I will carry you across.” As the water got deeper, the fox said, “Climb on my nose.” Snap! The fox ate him up.

Version 2

The Runaway Bun



This version is told in Russia. An old woman baked a round bun and set it on the windowsill to cool. The bun rolled off the sill and away down the path.

It met a hare, a wolf and a bear. Each one said, “Little bun, I will eat you!” Each time, the bun sang, “I got away from the old man and the old woman, and I will get away from you!” and rolled on.

Then it met a fox. “What a lovely song,” said the fox. “But I cannot hear well. Sit on my nose and sing it again.” The bun hopped onto her nose. Snap! The fox ate it up.

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Name _____ Date _____

Runaway Tales

Compare the two tellings. Then answer the questions.

1. In both versions, who eats the runaway at the end? **a horse** **a bear** **a fox**

2. Both runaways brag that no one can catch them. **true** **false**

3. How does the fox trick the runaway in each version?

4. Name one way the two versions are different.

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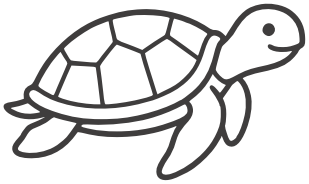
Name _____ Date _____

Racing Tales

Read both tellings of the tale.

Version 1

The Tortoise and the Hare



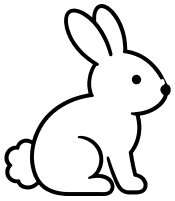
This version is a fable by Aesop, from long ago in Greece. Hare bragged that he was the fastest animal of all, so Tortoise said she would race him.

The race began. Hare zoomed far ahead and then lay down for a nap. Tortoise did not stop. Step by step, she walked past the sleeping Hare.

When Hare woke up, he ran as fast as he could, but Tortoise had already crossed the finish line. Slow and steady won the race.

Version 2

The Hare and the Hedgehog



This version is told in Germany. Hare laughed at Hedgehog's short, crooked legs. "I can beat you in a race," said Hedgehog.

Hedgehog was clever. His wife looked just like him, so he had her wait at the far end of the field. The race began. Hedgehog took a few steps and hid. Hare raced to the far end. There was Mrs. Hedgehog. "I'm already here!" she called.

"Again!" cried Hare, and raced back. "I'm already here!" called Hedgehog. Hare ran back and forth until he was too tired to run. He never laughed at Hedgehog again.

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Name _____ Date _____

Racing Tales

Compare the two tellings. Then answer the questions.

1. In both versions, who loses the race? **Tortoise** **Hare** **Hedgehog**

2. How does the slow animal win in each version?

3. Which version shows that being clever can beat being fast? **Version 1** **Version 2**

4. In both versions, Hare thinks he will win easily, but he loses. **true** **false**

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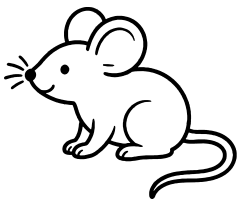
Name _____ Date _____

Two Mice

Read both tellings of the tale.

Version 1

Town Mouse, Country Mouse



This version is a fable by Aesop. A town mouse visited her cousin in the country. She turned up her nose at the plain seeds and roots. “Come to town,” she said, “and eat like a queen.”

In town, they found cheese and cake on a big table. But as they began to eat, two dogs ran in barking, and the mice ran to hide.

The country mouse went home. “I would rather eat plain food in peace than fancy food in fear,” she said.

Version 2

City Mouse and Farm Mouse



This is a new version. City Mouse lived in an apartment, where she nibbled pizza crusts and cookie crumbs. Her cousin, Farm Mouse, lived in a quiet barn full of grain.

Farm Mouse came to the city for a visit. The food was tasty, but the noise never stopped. Horns honked. A vacuum cleaner roared across the floor and chased them under the couch. Then the cat woke up!

The next morning, Farm Mouse packed her bag. “Your food is yummy,” she said, “but I like my peaceful barn better.”

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Name _____ Date _____

Two Mice

Compare the two tellings. Then answer the questions.

1. In Version 2, where does Farm Mouse live? **in an apartment** **in a barn**

2. What scares the mice in Version 1? What scares them in Version 2?

3. Both versions end with the same lesson. **true** **false**

4. Which version is set in a time with pizza and vacuum cleaners? **Version 2** **Version 1**

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Name _____ Date _____

Two Versions of a Story

Read two versions of one tale. Write how each tells it.

	Version 1	Version 2
	_____ title	_____ title
Who and where		
What happens		
How it ends		
Lesson		

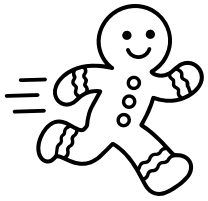
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Runaway Tales

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He ran past a pig and a horse, and they chased him, but no one could catch him. Then he came to a river. A fox said, “Climb on my back, and I will carry you across.” As the water got deeper, the fox said, “Climb on my nose.” Snap! The fox ate him up.

Version 2

The Runaway Bun



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It met a hare, a wolf and a bear. Each one said, “Little bun, I will eat you!” Each time, the bun sang, “I got away from the old man and the old woman, and I will get away from you!” and rolled on.

Then it met a fox. “What a lovely song,” said the fox. “But I cannot hear well. Sit on my nose and sing it again.” The bun hopped onto her nose. Snap! The fox ate it up.

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Runaway Tales

Compare the two tellings. Then answer the questions.

1. In both versions, who eats the runaway at the end? ***a* horse** ***a* bear** ***a* fox**

2. Both runaways brag that no one can catch them. **true** **false**

3. How does the fox trick the runaway in each version?

Version 1: she offers to carry him across the river. Version 2: she says she cannot hear and asks him to sit on her nose.

4. Name one way the two versions are different.

The gingerbread man runs, but the bun rolls. The bun meets a hare, a wolf and a bear.

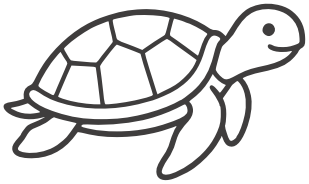
Find worksheets, teacher tools, and more at animalmath.com
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Racing Tales

Read both tellings of the tale.

Version 1

The Tortoise and the Hare



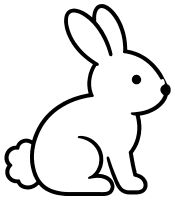
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"Again!" cried Hare, and raced back. "I'm already here!" called Hedgehog. Hare ran back and forth until he was too tired to run. He never laughed at Hedgehog again.

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Racing Tales

Compare the two tellings. Then answer the questions.

1. In both versions, who loses the race? **Tortoise** **Hare** **Hedgehog**

2. How does the slow animal win in each version?

Version 1: Tortoise keeps going while Hare sleeps. Version 2:

Hedgehog tricks Hare by having his wife wait at the end.

3. Which version shows that being clever can beat being fast? **Version 1** **Version 2**

4. In both versions, Hare thinks he will win easily, but he loses. **true** **false**

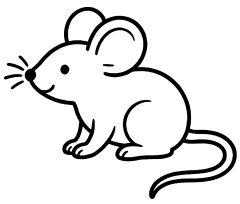
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Two Mice

Compare the two tellings. Then answer the questions.

1. In Version 2, where does Farm Mouse live? **in an apartment** **in a barn**

2. What scares the mice in Version 1? What scares them in Version 2?

Version 1: two barking dogs. Version 2: horns, a vacuum cleaner and a cat.

3. Both versions end with the same lesson. **true** **false**

4. Which version is set in a time with pizza and vacuum cleaners? **Version 2** **Version 1**

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