



Dear Family Member,

Your child will listen to several popular and enjoyable fables. Fables are special stories that are very short and teach a lesson called “the moral of the story.” Sometimes fables have animal characters that can talk and act like people. The fables your child will hear are known as “Aesop (EE-sop)’s Fables.”

Below are some activities that you can do with your child at home to help your child continue enjoying the fables s/he heard at school.

### 1. Moral Match

Use the activity page to talk with your child about fables after s/he has heard the fables at school. Read the moral of the story on the right and have your child draw a line from the moral to the picture of the fable it belongs to on the left. Ask your child to tell you about what happens in each fable.

### 2. Stories with Morals

Are there stories from your childhood that teach a lesson? Enjoy those stories with your child. Talk about what you learned from those stories.

### 3. Sayings and Phrases: Cry Wolf; Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing; and Sour Grapes

Your child will learn these sayings and phrases from the fables. Try to use them as they apply to everyday situations.

“Cry wolf” means to lie about something to get others’ attention.

“Wolf in sheep’s clothing” means that things or people are not always what they seem to be on the outside.

“Sour grapes” is a negative comment someone makes about something he or she cannot get.

### 4. Read Aloud Each Day

It is very important that you read to your child every day. The local library or your child’s teacher may have storybooks of fables that you can share with your child. A list of books is attached to this letter.

Let your child know how much you enjoy hearing about the fables s/he has learned at school.

## ***Recommended Resources for Fables and Stories***

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### **Trade Book List**

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#### ***Fables***

1. *Aesop's Fables*, by Jerry Pinkney (Chronicle Books, 2000) ISBN 978-1587170003
2. *Aesop's Fables*, by Beverly Naidoo and illustrated by Piet Grobler (Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2011) ISBN 978-1847800077
3. *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, by B.G. Hennessy and illustrated by Boris Kulikov (Simon & Schuster, 2006) ISBN 978-0689874338
4. *The Boy Who Cried Wolf/el Pastorcito Mentiroso: A Retelling of Aesop's Fable/Versión de la fábula de Esopo (Bilingual Edition, Audio Book)*, by Eric Blair and illustrated by Dianne Silverman (Capstone Press, 2008) ISBN 978-1404844704
5. *The Classic Treasury of Aesop's Fables (Children's Illustrated Classics)*, illustrated by Don Daily (Running Press, 2007) ISBN 978-0762428762
6. *The Fox and the Grapes*, by Mark White and illustrated by Sara Rojo Pérez (Capstone Press, 2008) ISBN 978-1479518562
7. *Fox Tails: Four Fables from Aesop*, by Amy Lowry (Holiday House, 2012) ISBN 978-0823424009
8. *How the Leopard Got His Claws*, by Chinua Achebe and illustrated by Mary GrandPré (Candlewick, 2011) ISBN 978-0763648053
9. *The Lion and the Mouse*, retold and illustrated by Bernadette Watts (North-South Books, 2007) ISBN 978-0735821293
10. *Little Cloud and Lady Wind*, by Toni Morrison and Slade Morrison and illustrated by Sean Qualls (Simon & Schuster, 2010) ISBN 978-1416985235

11. *The Tortoise and the Hare*, adapted and illustrated by Janet Stevens (Holiday House, 1985) ISBN 978-0823405640
12. *Town Mouse, Country Mouse*, by Jan Brett (Puffin, 2003) ISBN 978-0698119864
13. *The Wise Fool: Fables from the Islamic World*, by Shahrukh Husain and illustrated by Micha Archer (Barefoot Books, 2011) ISBN 978-1846862267

#### Stories

14. *Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock*, retold by Eric A. Kimmel and illustrated by Janet Stevens (Holiday House, 1990) ISBN 978-0823407989
15. *Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti*, by Gerald McDermott (Henry Holt, 1972) ISBN 978-0805003109
16. *Baby Rattlesnake: A Native American Tale*, by Te Ata and adapted by Lynn Moroney and illustrated by Mira Reisberg (Children's Book Press) ISBN 978-0892392162
17. *A Big Quiet House: A Yiddish Folktale from Eastern Europe*, retold by Heather Forest and illustrated by Susan Greenstein (August House Publishers, 2005) ISBN 978-0874834628
18. *The World of Winnie the Pooh and The House at Pooh Corner*, by A.A. Milne and illustrated by Ernest H. Shepard (Penguin, 2010) ISBN 978-0525444473
19. *How Chipmunk Got His Stripes*, by Joseph Bruchac and James Bruchac and illustrated by Jose Aruego and Ariane Dewey (Puffin, 2003) 978-0142500217
20. *It Could Always Be Worse: A Yiddish Folk Tale*, by Margot Zemach (Square Fish, 1990) ISBN 978-0374436360
21. *Medio Pollito/Half Chick: A Spanish Tale*, adapted by Eric A. Kimmel and illustrated by Valeria Docampo (Amazon Children's Publishing, 2010) ISBN 978-0761457053

22. *Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales*, by Nelson Mandela (Norton, W. W. & Company, 2007) ISBN 978-0393329902
23. *One Grain of Rice: A Mathematical Folktale*, by Demi (Scholastic, 1997) ISBN 978-0590939980
24. *The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales*, retold by Virginia Hamilton and illustrated by Leo Dillon and Diane Dillon (Random House Children's Books, 1993) ISBN 978-0394869254
25. *A Story, A Story: An African Tale*, by Gail E. Haley (Aladdin, 1998) 978-0689712012
26. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, by Beatrix Potter and illustrated by Michael Hague (Chronicle Books, 2005) ISBN 978-0811849067
27. *Too Much Noise*, by Ann McGovern and illustrated by Simms Taback (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1992) ISBN 978-0395629857
28. *The Tortoise's Gift: A Story from Zambia*, by Lari Don and illustrated by Melanie Williams (Barefoot Books, 2012) ISBN 978-1846867743
29. *Tunjur! Tunjur! Tunjur!: A Palestinian Folktale*, retold by Margaret Read MacDonald and illustrated by Alik Arzoumanian (Amazon Children's Publishing, 2012) ISBN 978-0761463122











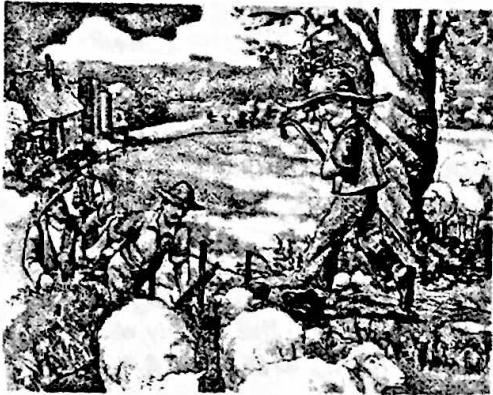
### Vocabulary List for Fables and Stories (Part 1)

This list includes many important words your child will learn about in *Fables and Stories*. Try to use these words with your child in English and your native language. Next to this list are suggestions of fun ways your child can practice and use these words at home.

- prank
- shepherd
- startled
- balanced
- plumpest
- delight
- golden
- greedy
- budge
- disguise
- pretend
- prowled
- juicy
- lunged
- pluck

*Directions: Help your child pick a word from the vocabulary list. Then help your child choose an activity and do the activity with the word. Check off the box for the word. Try to practice a word a day in English and your native language.*

	<b>Draw it</b>
	<b>Use it in a sentence</b>
	<b>Find one or two examples</b>
	<b>Tell a friend about it</b>
	<b>Act it out</b>
	<b>Make up a song using it</b>



Things are not always as they seem.



If you are greedy, you might lose what you already have.



You shouldn't speak badly about something just because you cannot have it.



If you always lie, others will not believe you even when you are telling the truth.