

# **The Hare and the Tortoise**

Esopo

# THE HARE AND THE TORTOISE

## BY AESOP

The Hare was once boasting of his speed before the other animals.  
“I have never yet been beaten,” said he, “when I put forth my full speed.  
I challenge any one here to race with me.”

The Tortoise said quietly, “I accept your challenge.”

“That is a good joke,” said the Hare; “I could dance round you all the way.”

“Keep your boasting till you’ve beaten,” answered the Tortoise.  
“Shall we race?”

So a course was fixed and a start was made. The Hare darted almost out of sight at once, but soon stopped and, to show his contempt for the Tortoise, lay down to have a nap. The Tortoise plodded on and plodded on, and when the Hare awoke from his nap, he saw the Tortoise just near the winning-post and could not run up in time to save the race.

Then said the Tortoise:

“Plodding wins the race.”

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