

## **The Hare and the Tortoise**

Once upon a time, in a green forest, there lived a **Hare** who was very proud of how fast he could run. He often laughed at a **Tortoise** for being so slow.

One day, tired of the Hare's teasing, the Tortoise said calmly,  
"Speed isn't everything. I can beat you in a race."

The Hare burst out laughing.

"A race? With *you*? Fine! Let everyone see how foolish you are."

All the animals gathered, and the race began.

The Hare ran so fast that he was soon far ahead. Looking back and seeing the Tortoise far behind, he thought,

"I have plenty of time."

So he lay down under a tree and fell asleep.

Meanwhile, the Tortoise kept moving—slowly but steadily—step by step, without stopping.

After a long while, the Hare woke up and saw the Tortoise near the finish line. Shocked, the Hare ran as fast as he could, but it was too late. The Tortoise crossed the finish line first.

The forest echoed with cheers for the Tortoise.