

## Hare Tricks Tortoise

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English





Once upon a time, there lived a tortoise, who had worked very hard during his entire life.



When he retired, he received a nice lump sum of money.



He decided that he would buy a big piece of land with the money, and become a farmer.



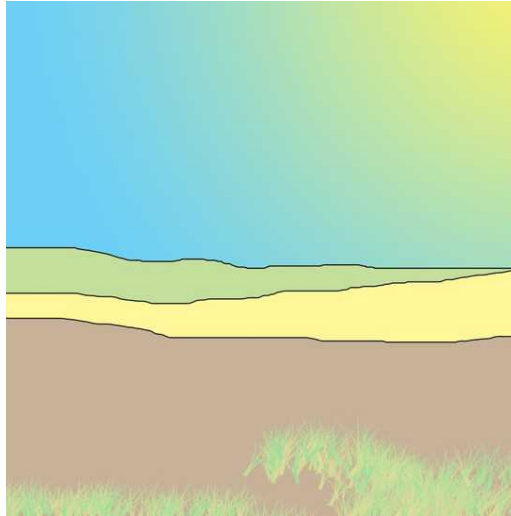
News spread all over the village that Tortoise was looking for land to buy.

When Hare heard the news, he had an idea! He rushed to see Tortoise and said:



"Mr Tortoise! I can help you find land to buy. Come with me!"

That very same day, Hare took Tortoise to visit a plot. He pointed to a large field and said:



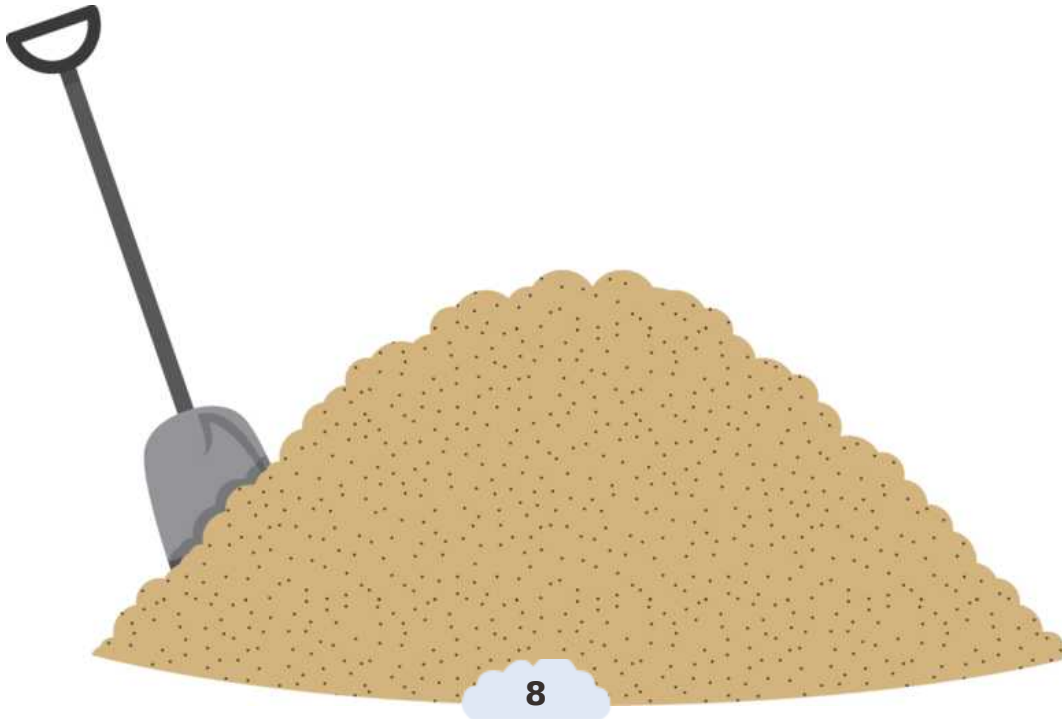
"I own all this land!"

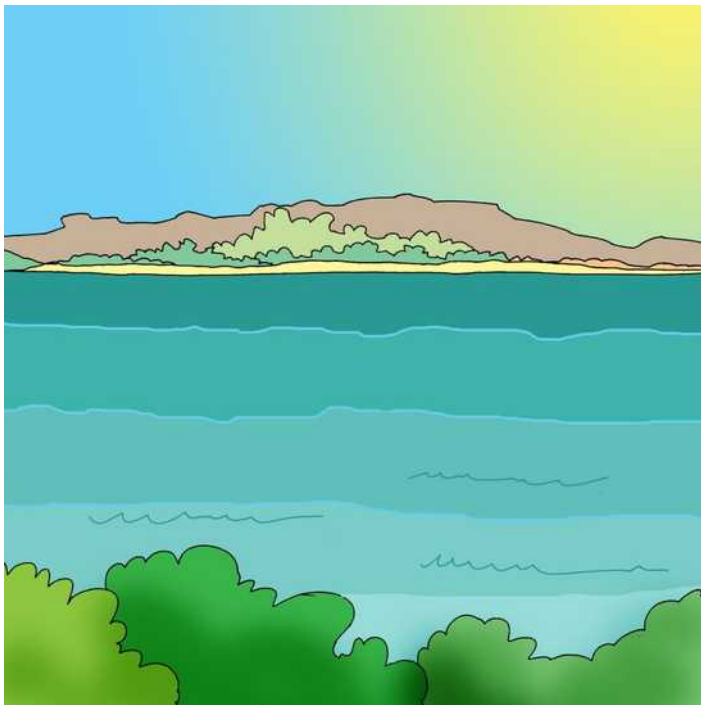
Tortoise was impressed.

After bargaining for a while, they agreed on a price and Tortoise paid for the land.



The next day, Tortoise got up bright and early. He gathered some of his friends together and they went with their tools to visit the farm. They wanted to prepare it for planting.





When they reached, all they could see was water!  
"Where is your land?" they asked, unable to contain their laughter.



Tortoise realised that he had been tricked. Hare had sold him a beach, and when the tide came in, all that was left was the sea. There was no farm land.

Tortoise went straight away to see Elephant, who was the highest judge in the land, and told him what had happened.



Elephant ordered lion to go and find Hare and bring him to the court.

When Hare heard lion coming, he ran out and said: "I am so happy to see you lion, but I have to run. Wild dogs have invaded our village!"

As soon as he was out of sight, Hare ran from house to house, howling like a wild dog.





Lion could hear the howling wild dogs coming from all directions, and shaking with fear, he ran away.

And hare too ran away,  
with all of Tortoise's  
money!

Tortoise was sad, but he  
had many friends who  
helped him find another  
piece of land to farm.



# Hare Tricks Tortoise

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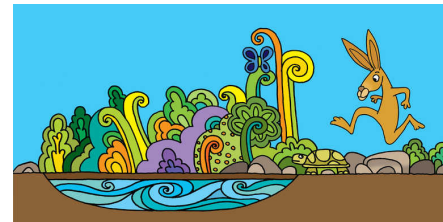
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Hare Tricks Tortoise is a traditional folk tale that was recounted to Maimouna Jallow by Zanzibari poet and storyteller Haji Gora Haji in February 2015. It is part of a project to collect stories that were traditionally passed down orally

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