The Race for Water

There was a town next to a river. The people there had a lot of water. But they **wasted** it. That made the Sky angry. It said, "If you waste water, I will take it away from you." But the people didn't listen.

When the **season** changed from spring to summer, the clouds **disappeared**. The **bright** sun was hot and made the river dry. There was no water **available**. People asked, "When will the rain fall?"

The Sky's **response** was, "You don't **appreciate** water. You waste it, and now I will never make rain again."

A boy **determined** that this wasn't **fair**. He thought of a **solution**. He asked the Sky to race him. He said, "If I get to the top of that **hill** before your rain can form **puddles**, you must fill our river."

The Sky laughed. "Little boy, I am the Sky. I am above everything **else**. You cannot **beat** me." But the boy knew he would win.

When the race began, the boy ran **forward**. The Sky started raining on the hill. But puddles did not form there. When it rained on the hill, the water went down.

The Sky kept raining. The water **flowed** down into the river. When the boy reached the top of the hill, the river was full. The people began to **celebrate**. It was the highest **level** the river had ever been at before.

The Sky was angry. "A boy can't beat me! I won't fill your river," it said.

Now the boy laughed. "It doesn't matter **whether** you want to fill it or not," he said. "You already did." The Sky looked at the full river.

"You tricked me," it said. It asked the people, "Do you appreciate water now?"

"Yes," they said. "We won't waste it."

That is how a **lone** boy saved his town and won the race for water.