

Aesop's Fables

Aesop, translated by George Fyler Townsend

How does the fable overturn the lion’s first judgment?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	The Lion and the Mouse

TEACHER SETUP

Open the work in the Enhanced Reader and cue the span using the START and END anchors below.

START	A lion was awakened from sleep by a Mouse running over his face.
END	I now know that it is possible for even a Mouse to confer benefits on a Lion.
PASSAGE ID	sec-aesop-lionmouse-01

THE MOVE

Trace how a repeated idea changes meaning after an event

WHY THIS PASSAGE

The mouse’s promise initially sounds ridiculous because the lion measures usefulness by size and power. The later rescue repeats the same relationship under reversed conditions, turning the lion’s laughter into evidence of a mistaken assumption.

MARK

Underline the mouse’s promise. Circle the lion’s response. Box the later action that frees the lion. Draw an arrow from the first judgment to the final realization.

NOTICE

- What assumption makes the mouse’s promise seem absurd to the lion?
- What changes about the lion’s power when he is trapped?
- How does the ending revise the meaning of the earlier laughter?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does the fable overturn the lion’s first judgment? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response. Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.

STRONG ANSWER

The fable overturns the lion’s first judgment by placing him in a situation where size and strength cannot solve the problem. The mouse’s small teeth can do what the lion cannot, proving that usefulness depends on circumstance rather than rank or size.

EVIDENCE

Use the lion’s initial reaction and the specific action the mouse performs during the rescue.

WATCH FOR

Do not reduce the moral to “be nice.” The sharper lesson is about misjudging another creature’s possible value.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 7 · LESSON 271

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WORK	Aesop's Fables
TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	The Lion and the Mouse

PASSAGE ID	sec-aesop-lionmouse-01
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Your teacher will open or cue the work in the Enhanced Reader. Use the location and verbatim anchors below to confirm the assigned span.

START

A lion was awakened from sleep by a Mouse running over his face.

END

I now know that it is possible for even a Mouse to confer benefits on a Lion.

READ / LISTEN TO THE ASSIGNED PASSAGE SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration and highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the assigned passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK Underline the mouse's promise. Circle the lion's response. Box the later action that frees the lion. Draw an arrow from the first judgment to the final realization.
2. NOTICE What assumption makes the mouse's promise seem absurd to the lion? What changes about the lion's power when he is trapped? How does the ending revise the meaning of the earlier laughter?
3. THINK Answer provisionally: How does the fable overturn the lion's first judgment?
4. WRITE Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.
5. CLOSE Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.