

# What is a fable?

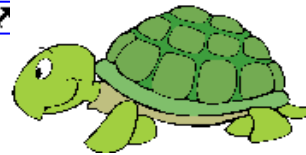
Listen to the following fables to identify the similar characteristics and list them on the Post-it note provided.



"The Ant and the Dove"



"The Tortoise and the Hare"



"The Ant and the Grasshopper"

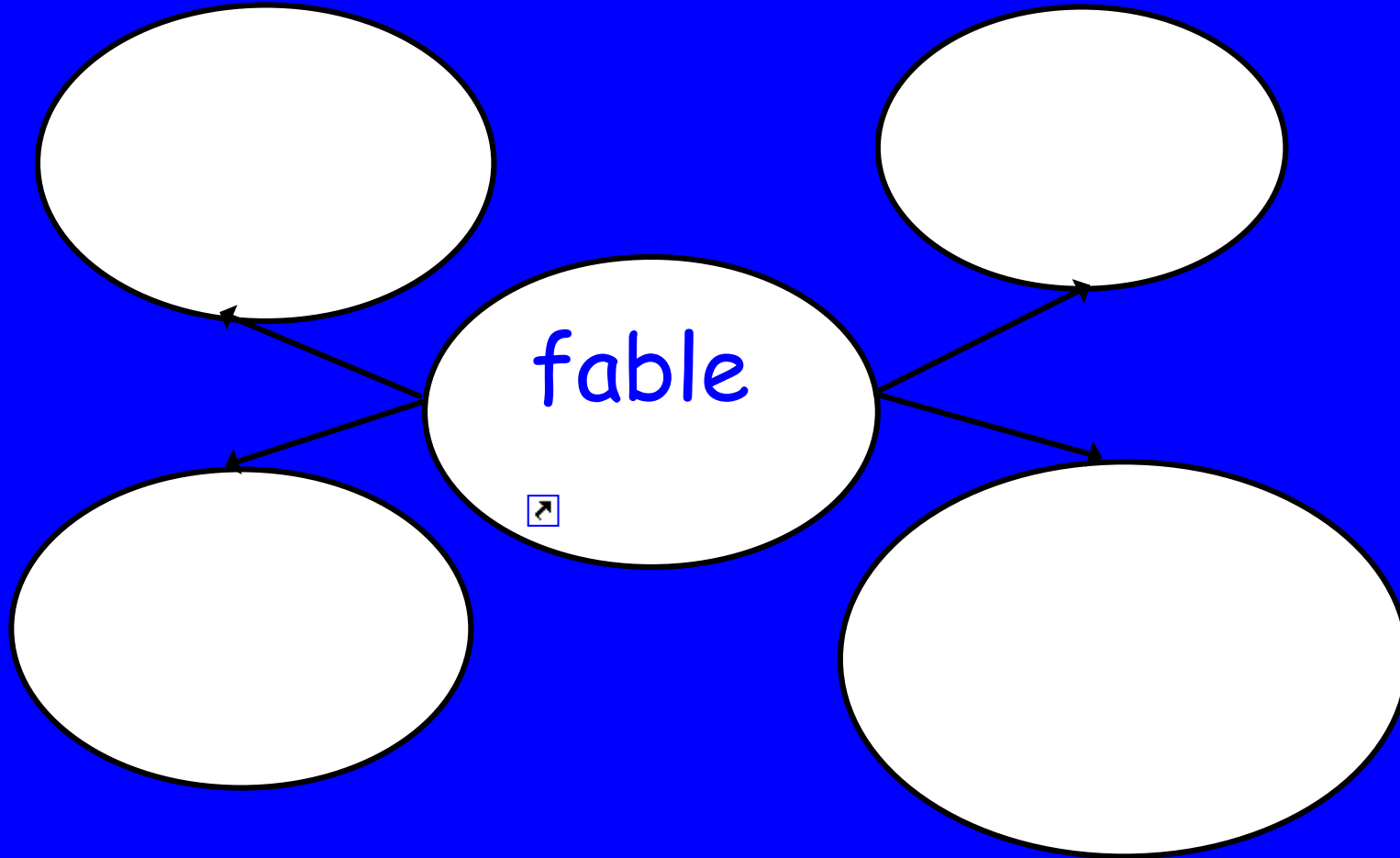


"The Lion and the Mouse"

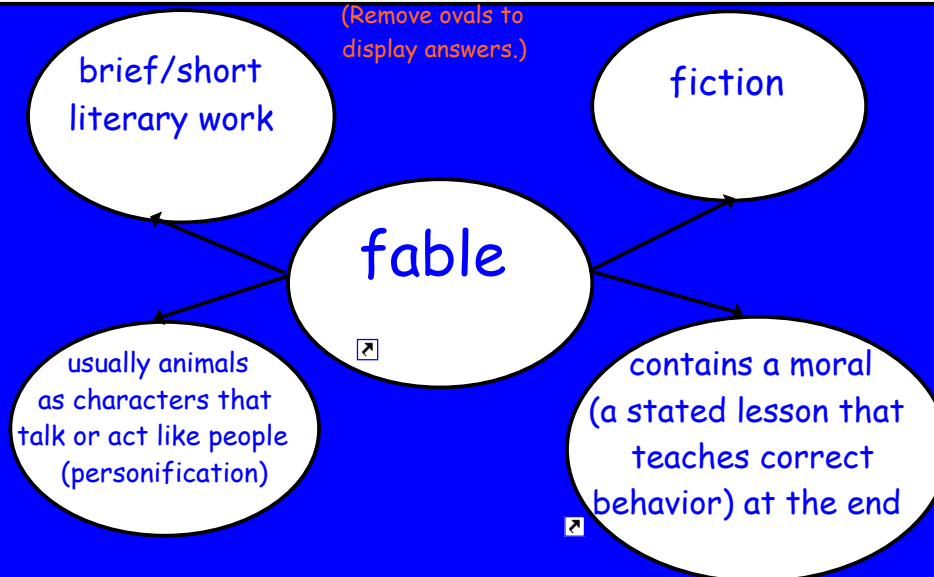


# What are the characteristics of a fable?

Copy the following web into the Reading Section of your notebook.



What are the characteristics of a fable?



Using the information from the web above, create a definition for both fable and moral.

fable-

moral-

## Definitions

Check your definitions with those below to ensure all characteristics are included.

fable- a brief fictional story with a stated moral at the end that usually contains animal characters that talk and act like humans (personification)

moral- a short rule at the end of a story that show teaches correct behavior

# Let's "unpack" a Fable!

With your partner select two favorite fables to "unpack." Copy the Fable Chart below into the Reading Section of your notebook. For each fable identify the literary elements and interpret(explain) the moral.

(title)						
Setting	Characters	Character Traits	Detail to Support Trait	Problem	Resolution	Moral

Explain the moral. What does the moral teach? How do the actions and dialogue of the characters help teach a lesson?

## Can you guess the moral of the fable?

Copy the following fable titles(1-5) into the Reading Section of your notebook. Skip three lines between each.

1. "The Fox and the Goat"



2. "The Wolf and the Kid"



3. "Fighting Roosters and  
the Eagle"



4. "The Milkmaid and  
the Milk pail"



5. "The Wolf in Sheep's  
Clothing"



Pride goes before the fall.

Think before you act.

The wicked often fall into  
their own snares.

It's easy to be brave  
from a safe distance.

Don't count your chickens  
before they're hatched.

## Which proverb will you choose?

Read the following proverbs with your partner, and choose one as the moral for your original fable.

1. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.
2. Beauty is only skin deep.
3. Do unto others as you would like others to do unto you.
4. Don't bite off more than you can chew.
5. Don't bite the hand that feeds you.
6. Goodness is better than beauty.
7. Grass is not always greener on the other side.
8. He who hesitates is lost.
9. Honesty is the best policy.
10. Look before you leap.
11. No act of kindness goes unpaid.
12. No pain, no gain.
13. One good deed deserves another.
14. Practice makes perfect.
15. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
16. Two heads are better than one.
17. What goes around comes around.
18. Where there's a will there's a way.

# Let's Write a Fable!

Follow the steps of the Writing Process below to create your fable.

## The Writing Process

### ★ Step 1: Pre-Writing

- ✓ brainstorm ideas
- ✓ create an outline

### ★ Step 2: Drafting

### ★ Step 3: Revising and Editing

- ✓ check spelling, grammar punctuation
- ✓ show don't tell

### ★ Step 4: Final Copy

- ✓ rewrite and proofread

### ★ Step 5: Publishing

### ★ Step 6: Presenting



## Teacher Web Resources

### Aesop Biographies

<http://www.answers.com/topic/aesop>



<http://www.sacklunch.net/biography/A/Aesop.html>



[http://www.german.leeds.ac.uk/RWI/2003\\_04project1/aesop.htm](http://www.german.leeds.ac.uk/RWI/2003_04project1/aesop.htm)



<http://www.online-literature.com/aesop/>



### Scholastic Fractured Fairy Tales and Fables

[http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/fractured\\_fairy.htm](http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/fractured_fairy.htm)



### Fable Web sites

<http://us.penguingroup.com/static/packages/us/yreaders/aesop/index.html>



<http://home.freeuk.net/elloughton13/aesop.htm>



[http://kidcrosswords.com/kidreader/aesops\\_fables/aesops\\_fables\\_table.htm](http://kidcrosswords.com/kidreader/aesops_fables/aesops_fables_table.htm)



<http://www.umass.edu/aesop/fables.php>



<http://www.aesopfables.com/>



<http://www.literature.org/authors/aesop/fables/>



[http://kidcrosswords.com/kidreader/aesops\\_fables/aesops\\_fables\\_moral.htm](http://kidcrosswords.com/kidreader/aesops_fables/aesops_fables_moral.htm)



[http://walledlake.k12.mi.us/lake/tortoiseand\\_the\\_hare.htm](http://walledlake.k12.mi.us/lake/tortoiseand_the_hare.htm)



<http://www.dltk-kids.com/fables/lion/tale.htm>

