

**Thank you for downloading this**  
I hope you enjoy using it. Please visit our  
website at [HomeschoolLounge.com](http://HomeschoolLounge.com) to see our  
other wonderful printables and lesson plans.

*~ Jackie Masek*

**TERMS OF USE**

This file comes with a limited use license for the original download only.

Please respect the time and effort put into each project by not giving it away to others.

© Copyright Jacqueline Masek ([HomeschoolLounge.com](http://HomeschoolLounge.com)). All rights reserved.

This product is to be used by the original downloader only.

Copying for more than one teacher, classroom, department, school, or school system is prohibited.

This product may not be distributed or displayed digitally for public view.

Copying any part of this product and placing it on the internet in any form (even a personal/classroom website) is strictly forbidden. These items would be picked up in a Google search and we would be alerted to the misuse. Failure to comply is a copyright infringement and a violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DCMA).

Clipart and elements found in this PDF are copyrighted and cannot be extracted and used outside of this file without permission or license. Intended for classroom and personal use ONLY.

Fonts and Graphics by:

Grilled Cheese BTN ©

Font Diner –

<https://www.fontdiner.com>

L

Vectors and Images

originally created by

Freepik -

## Tug Of War – An African Folktale

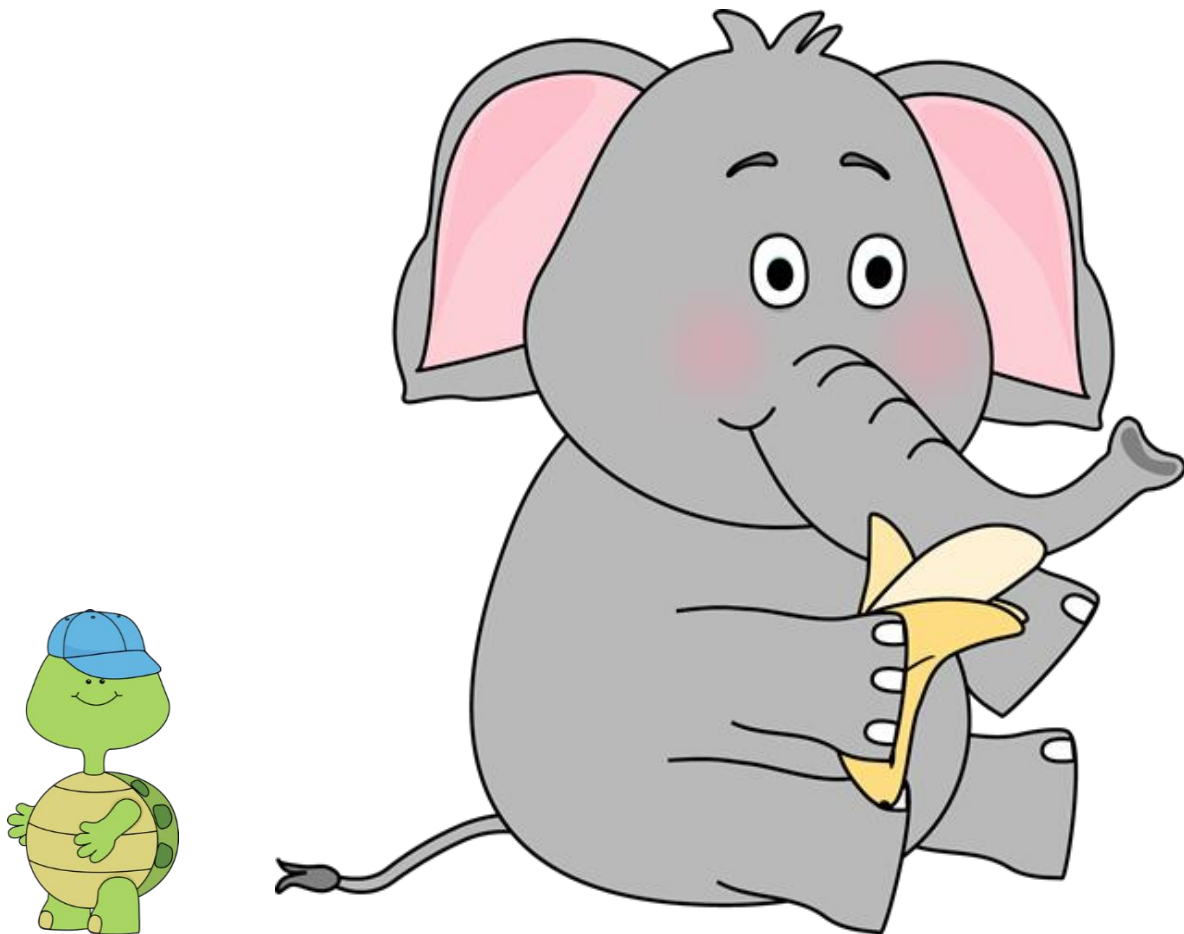
One fine day Tortoise was walking through the jungle. He was taking his time because he enjoyed looking at the scenery.

As he tried to cross the river he accidentally stepped on Hippo's tail.

"Hey! I was trying to take a nap. Get out of here quickly, Tortoise! Move, move!" he snapped.

Tortoise got out of Hippo's way, as quickly as he could.

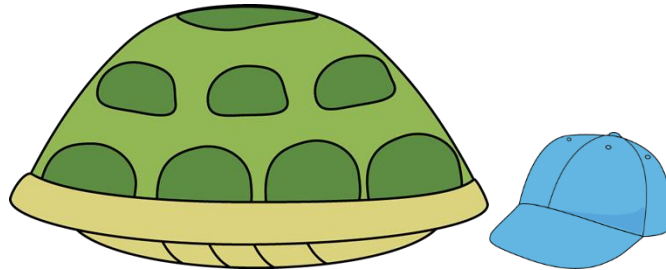
He was going so fast that he bumped right into Elephant's foot.



"Look out Tortoise! You are moving so slow that I almost stepped on you!" said Elephant.

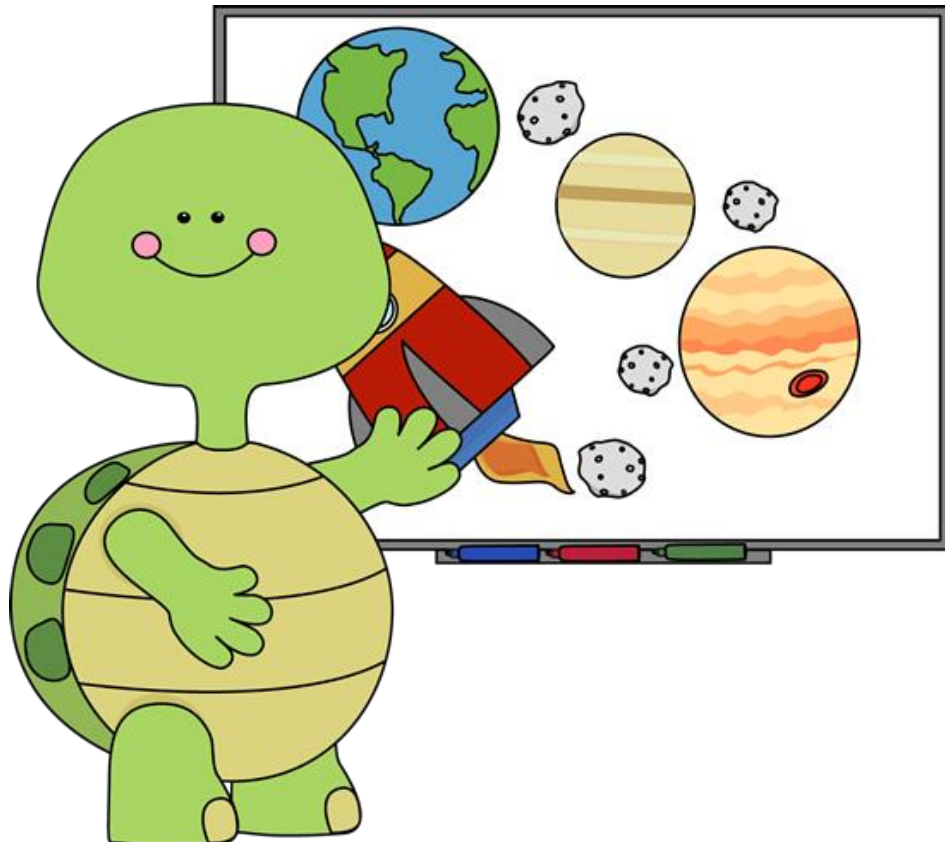
This made Tortoise very grumpy. He was always being mistreated by all the other jungle animals.

"Well you need to watch where you are going!" yelled Tortoise. "I may be slow but I am strong and mighty too!"

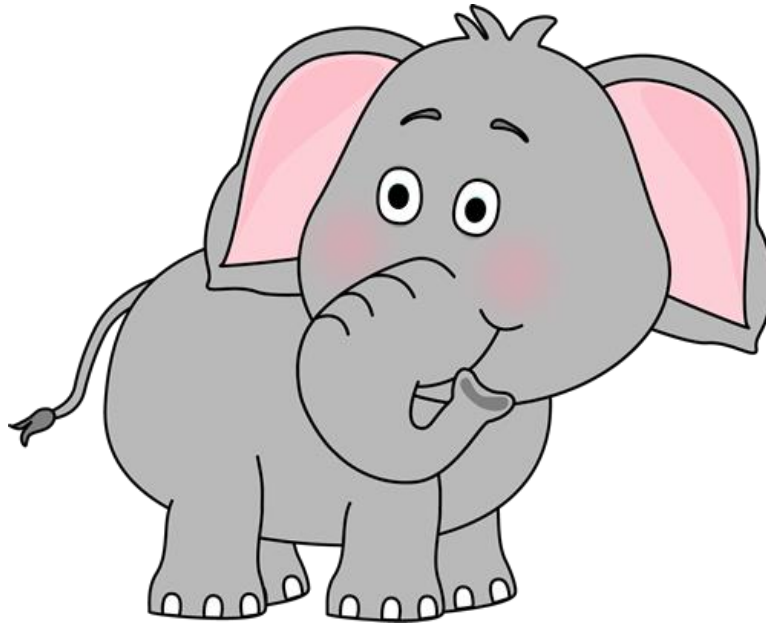


Elephant laughed. "Oh Tortoise, I could have easily stepped right on you and crushed you flat. You had better watch that sharp tongue of yours".

"Well then" said Tortoise "I challenge you to see who is the strongest! I challenge you to a tug of war!"



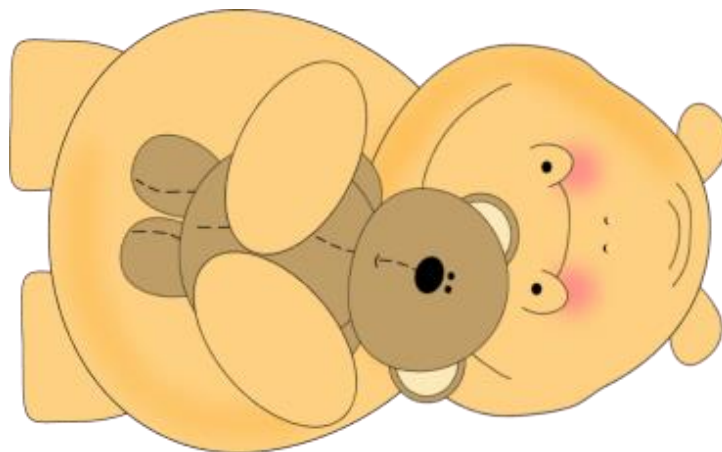
"Very well. This ought to be good," chuckled Elephant.



Tortoise replied, "We will each take a hold of this vine here. You take one end and I'll go down to the river with the other. When I say, "Pull Oh Mighty Beast, pull", we will both pull. You try to drag me into the jungle and I will try to drag you into the river".

"Fine by me" said Elephant. "I'll show you who's mighty".

Tortoise ran all the way down to the river where Hippo was attempting to continue his afternoon nap.



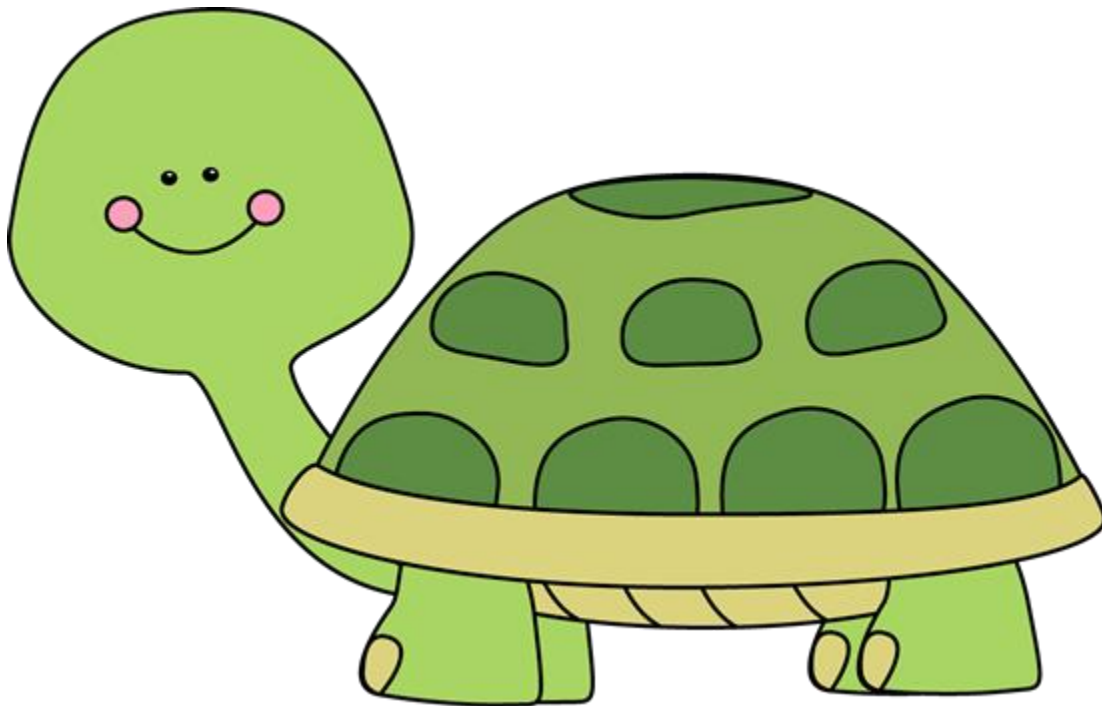
"Hippo, you chased me out of the river earlier and now I am here to show you that I am mighty, too" yelled Tortoise.

Hippo emerged from the water. "Oh, really now?" he said with a laugh.

"Yeah. You hold one end of this vine here and I'll hold the other. When I say, "Pull, Oh Mighty Beast, pull", you try to pull me into the water. And I will try to pull you into the jungle".

Hippo laughed and said, "All right then. It's about time I teach you some manners".

Tortoise walked halfway back into the jungle and yelled at the top of his lungs, "PULL OH MIGHTY BEAST, PULL!"



Both Elephant and Hippo began to pull and pull with all their might. Neither of them would budge.

"Wow, Tortoise is quite strong" thought Elephant.

"Tortoise can pull much more than I imagined," thought Hippo.

But they both kept pulling.

When each beast had had enough, Tortoise yelled, "Stop! The vine is about to break!" Both Hippo and Elephant were glad to stop pulling.

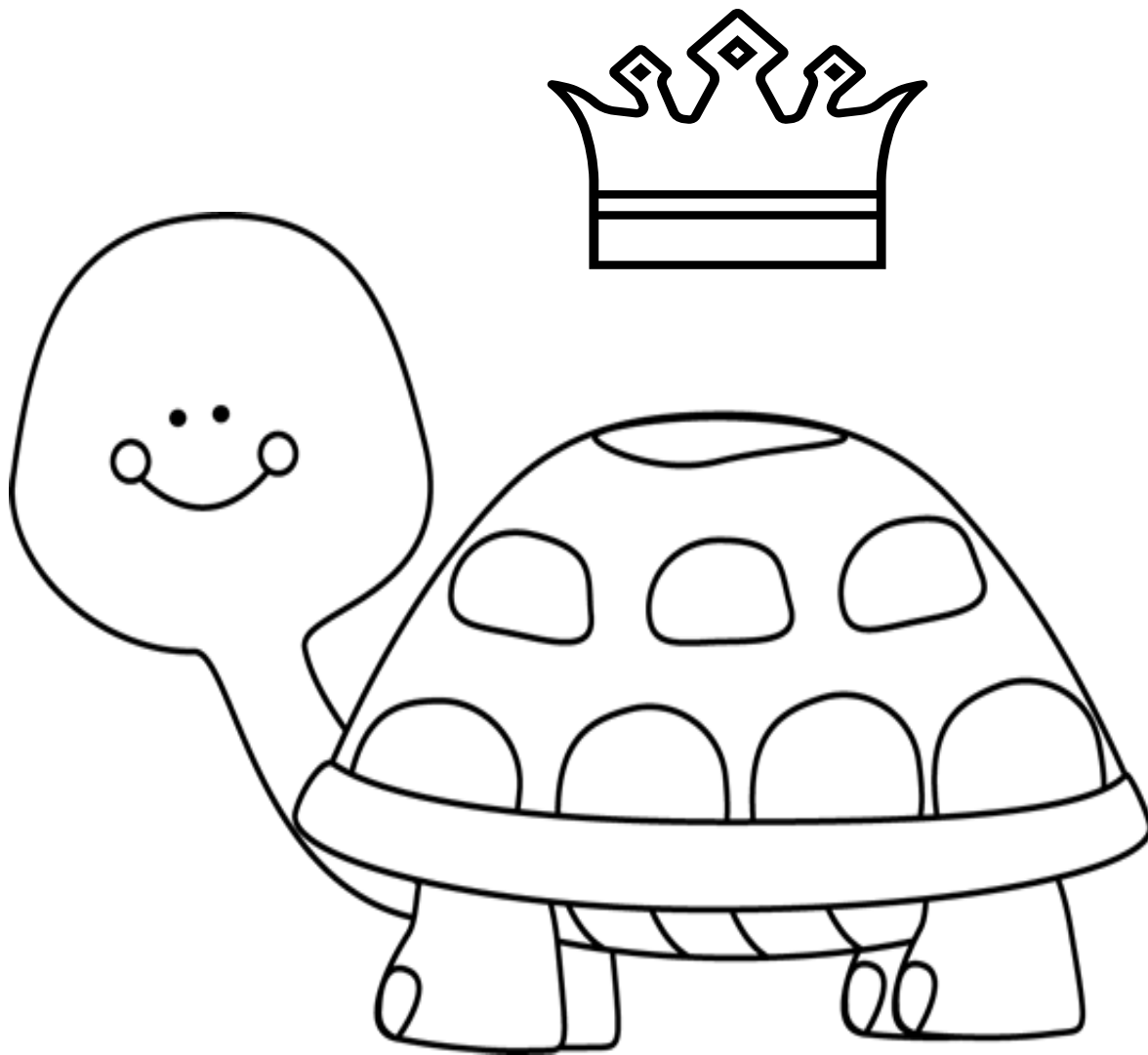
Tortoise ran over to Elephant. "You are strong Tortoise. I will allow you to roam the jungle with me from now on," said a tired Elephant.

Tortoise ran down to Hippo. "I won't chase you out of the water anymore. I will share my river with you," said an exhausted Hippo.

And from that day forward, Tortoise was free to roam about the jungle, as fast or as slow as he pleased. And he also became one of the most respected animals in the jungle.

---

Color Tortoise. Color the crown. Then cut out the crown and put it on his head.





Cut the characters out and glue onto popsicle sticks. Use them to re-enact the story.

