

The Town Mouse & The Country Mouse



Reading Comprehension Activity Book

Original Story by Æsop for Children
Group 1 – Book 9

Name _____ Date _____

By Donnette E Davis

Preface:

Welcome to our collection of comprehension activity books for early readers. I have sourced public domain material for these books and have adapted and digitally reconstructed them to fulfil the purpose of these books.

Probably the single most important aspect of your child's early academic development is learning to read and acquiring and sustaining a love of reading. Of course any child's interest needs to be perked in order for them to want to read and read and read and slowly progress from simple books with large illustrations and words to longer books with fewer illustrations and smaller words. The journey to a love of reading is rarely accomplished overnight, but once you have reached that destination, a whole new world will open up for your child where he or she can visit places only dreamed about, live in that beautiful castle, become friends with the fairies and take a safari trip to Africa, perhaps even journey to the centre of the earth!

At the end of this story you will find notes for discussion and comprehension questions. In groups 1, 2 and 3 I have no doubt that your child will require some assistance in understanding the questions. This is where I encourage fun interaction between educator and learner. It may be so that you will need to record their answers and suggestions on the pages required. This subtle exercise will go far to show you in a year or less how far your child has progressed and where his or her interests lie and to enhance and encourage a love of reading. Positive interaction between you and your child will make this a fun learning experience as he or she watches you do your "homework". Who said homeschooling isn't hands on? ☺

You will be able to decide which questions and discussion points are appropriate for your child. The purpose of this exercise is to establish the understanding of the story and the concept and to enhance concentration, listening and reading skills.

I really do hope that you and your child enjoy doing these exercises as much as Savannah, Clarissa and myself have enjoyed compiling them. I cannot stress enough the importance of allowing your child to develop at his or her own pace. There is no need to progress to a more advanced book, no matter how short, until you are your child are quite confident that he or she has grasped the first story and that he or she is quite comfortable with the discussion and questions that are an integral part of this reading comprehension activity. As always I wish you and your child a most blessed, fun and informative educational journey. ☺

The Nitty Gritty: We would love to hear your comments on this workbook. If you have a moment please email your comments and suggestions to feedback@staidenshomeschool.com

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Post Office Box 13720
Cascades
3202
KwaZulu-Natal
Republic of South Africa

THE TOWN MOUSE AND THE COUNTRY MOUSE



A Town Mouse once visited a relative who lived in the country. For lunch the Country Mouse served wheat stalks, roots, and acorns, with a dash of cold water for drink. The Town Mouse ate very sparingly, nibbling a little of this and a little of that, and by her manner making it very plain that she ate the simple food only to be polite and that she was not really enjoying it very much at all.

After the meal the friends had a long talk, or rather the Town Mouse talked about her life in the city while the Country Mouse listened. They then went to bed in a cosy nest in the hedgerow and slept in quiet and comfort until morning. In her sleep the Country Mouse dreamed she was a Town Mouse with all the luxuries and delights of city life that her friend had described for her.

So the next day when the Town Mouse asked the Country Mouse to go home with her to the city, she gladly said yes.

When they reached the mansion in which the Town Mouse lived, they found on the table in the dining room the left overs of a very fine feast. There were sweetmeats and jellies, pastries, delicious cheeses, indeed, the most tempting foods that a Mouse can imagine.



But just as the Country Mouse was about to nibble a dainty bit of pastry, she heard a Cat mew loudly and scratch at the door. In great fear the Mice scurried to a hiding place, where they lay quite still for a long time, hardly daring to breathe. When at last they ventured back to the feast, the

door opened suddenly and in came the servants to clear the table, followed by the House Dog.

The Country Mouse stopped in the Town Mouse's den only long enough to pick up her carpet bag and umbrella.

"You may have luxuries and dainties that I have not," she said as she hurried away, "but I prefer my plain food and simple life in the country with the peace and security that go with it."

The Moral of this story:

Being poor with security and happiness is better than being rich when you are scared and uncertain.

The End.

Comprehension Questions

Note to Parents: Your little one will probably need some assistance with the questions, in explaining some of the phrases. Allow him or her to describe their answer in detail. It may be beneficial to ask him or her to draw pictures to illustrate the answer, or, if you prefer, it is fun to record the answers yourself and refer back to them in a few months' time. You will be the best person to choose which questions are appropriate for your child.

QUESTIONS:

- 1) What was your favourite part of the story? Why?
- 2) Have you ever read another story that is similar to this? How were they the same? How were they different?
- 3) How would you change the main character?
- 4) How are you like that character? How are you different?
- 5) What could be another name for this story?
- 6) Should the character have done something differently? What? Why?
- 7) What did you learn from this story?

ANSWERS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

Can you draw a picture from this story?



What have you drawn in your picture? Can you describe it?

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