



The Wisdom Tree

...a futuristic School

By The Wisdom Tree Foundation

The Donkey in the Lion's Skin

A donkey found a lion's skin and decided to put it on. He looked at his reflection in the stream and saw that he looked just like a lion and decided to make some use of the lion's skin. He walked towards the village in the lion's skin. Seeing a lion, the villagers got scared and started running to hide. The villagers left their food and belongings out there in the open. The donkey in the lion's skin ate as much food as he wanted and then grabbed the loot and went back into the forest. For the next some days, he relaxed and enjoyed the food he had brought from the village. This went on for the next few days. Every time the donkey was successful, his confidence grew.

The villagers wanted to do something about the situation and decided to follow the lion. After the next loot, the donkey went straight to the wheat fields and started singing loudly. The villagers standing behind him recognized his

braying. They caught hold of the donkey in the lion's skin and started beating him mercilessly.

Two friends and the Bear

Once there were two friends who were crossing the jungle. After sometime they saw a bear coming towards them. Then, one of the friends quickly climbed the nearby tree and the other one did not know how to climb the tree. So he laid down on the ground holding his breath. The bear reached near him and sniffed him in the ear. After some time the bear left the place, thinking the man is dead. Now the other friend climbed down and asked his friend, what did bear say to him in his ear? He replied, to be safe from the fake friends.

THE WOLF AND THE LAMB

One day A lamb was eating sweet grass away from her flock of sheep. She didn't notice a wolf walking nearer to her .When she saw the wolf , she started pleading ,Please don't eat me. my stomach is full of grass.You can wait a while to make my meat taste much better.The grass in my

stomach will be digested quickly if you let me dance. The wolf agreed.

While the lamb was dancing she had a new idea. She said I can dance faster if you take my bell and ring it so hard. The wolf took the bell and started to ring so hard. The shepherd heard the sound and ran quickly to save the lambs life.

The Proud Rose

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful rose plant in a garden. One rose flower on the plant was proud of its beauty. However, it was disappointed that it was growing next to an ugly cactus. Every day, the rose would insult the cactus about its looks, but the cactus stayed quiet. All the other plants in the garden tried to stop the rose from bullying the cactus, but the rose was too swayed by its own beauty to listen to anyone. One summer, a well in the garden dried up and there was no water for the plants. The rose slowly began to wilt. The rose saw a sparrow dip its beak into the cactus for some water. The rose then felt ashamed for having made fun of the cactus all this time. But because it was in need of water, it went to ask the cactus if it could have some water. The kind cactus agreed, and they both got through summer as friends.

The Golden Touch

Once there lived a greedy man in a small town. He was very rich, and he loved gold and all things fancy. But he

loved his daughter more than anything. One day, he chanced upon a fairy. The fairy's hair was caught in a few tree branches. He helped her out, but as his greediness took over, he realised that he had an opportunity to become richer by asking for a wish in return (by helping her out). The fairy granted him a wish. He said, "All that I touch should turn to gold." And his wish was granted by the grateful fairy.

The greedy man rushed home to tell his wife and daughter about his wish, all the while touching stones and pebbles and watching them convert into gold. Once he got home, his daughter rushed to greet him. As soon as he bent down to scoop her up in his arms, she turned into a gold statue. He was devastated and started crying and trying to bring his daughter back to life. He realised his folly and spent the rest of his days searching for the fairy to take away his wish.

A Tortoise and Two Geese

Once upon a time, beside a lake, there lived a Tortoise and two geese who were great friends. As the lake was drying, the geese decided to migrate to a new place. The tortoise also wanted to move with them, but he couldn't fly, and so he pleaded the geese to take him with them. After trying really hard to convince them, finally, the geese agreed. They held a stick with their beaks and asked

the tortoise to hold the stick with his mouth, warning him to not open his mouth and let go of the stick.

As they flew high, some onlookers thought that the tortoise was kidnapped and commented: “Oh, the poor tortoise!” This angered the tortoise and he immediately opened his mouth to say something back. As soon as he did, he fell to the ground and died.

The Woodcutter and Axe

Once there lived a woodcutter in a remote village. He was an honest but poor man. He worked very hard and never complained. Every morning he went to the riverside to chop wood. He made a living by selling it in the market. One day, he climbed a tree and started cutting the branches. Suddenly, the axe slipped from his hands and fell into the water. “Oh no”

Now, what should I do? I do not have another axe. I do not know how to swim either. How am I going to earn a living?” He cried. At that moment, he heard a voice and looked up. He saw a beautiful fairy standing on the river bank. She was dressed in pink and sparkled like the sun. The wood cutter was scared. She said, ‘I am a fairy who lives in the river. I heard

you crying. Tell me what the matter is?” The woodcutter narrated his problem. The fairy said I will help you. She dove into the river and came out with a silver axe. The fairy said here take your axe the woodcutter said, no that’s not mine. The fairy went into the water a second time and came out with the golden axe, the woodcutter repeated, no no.. “That is not mine”. The third time the fairy went into the water and came out with an ordinary iron axe. The woodcutter was happy. He said, “Yes that’s my axe”. Thank you fairy for finding my axe. The fairy said, “Mr. Woodcutter you are an honest man. So, I give the golden and silver axes to you as a reward for telling the truth”. The woodcutter was beaming with joy. He thanked the fairy and resumed his work. He went a happy and rich man.

A Cap Seller and Monkey

Once upon a time, a *cap seller* was traveling by walk by way of a forest to a village. It was a very warm day and so he chose to lay down under a tree and take sleep for some time till the sun sets down. As he was extremely tired he slept quickly.

When he was sleeping several monkeys came down the tree and pulled the cap seller's bag. They opened the bag and found the colourful caps inside. The monkeys picked up the caps and climbed back up the trees. The cap seller woke up after sometime and was surprised to find his opened bag and the monkeys all using his caps. The cap seller became very upset, he shouted at the monkeys in the tree. The monkeys yelled back at him. This made the cap seller much more irritated. He picked up few stones from the ground and threw them at the monkeys. This time the monkeys threw the fruits they had in their hands at the cap seller.

The cap seller was shocked at this actions of the monkeys. He thought for a while. This time, he taken off the cap, he was wearing and threw it on the ground. The monkeys that were seeing him also did exactly the same. They threw all the caps on the ground. The clever cap seller collected all the caps, filled them back in his travelling bag and moved away from that location.

The Lazy Donkey

Once there lived a hardworking salt merchant. He had a donkey which was very lazy. Every day, loaded salt on the donkey's back. They went to the market where the man sold the salt. They had to

pass by a river on the way to the market. They usually stopped there to drink water before continuing on their journey. One day, the donkey stepped into the river. He tripped over a stone and fell into the water. The merchant came running. He was worried that the donkey was severely hurt. But the donkey was only scratched. As they continued their journey. The donkey felt that his load was lighter. The next day he again stepped in to the river for a drink. He then pretended to fall into the water, and the load become lighter. This happened over and over again. Soon the merchant grew suspicious. One day, the merchant decided to keep an eye on the donkey. He saw that the donkey purposely fell into the water. The merchant was angry but did not say anything. Instead, he came up with a plan. The next day, the merchant loaded the donkeys with sacks of cotton instead of salt. When they reached the river, the donkey fell into the river but was surprised when he stood up. The load on his back was heavier instead of getting lighter. The donkey realized his mistake. From then on, he served his master faithfully.

Three Fish

Long time ago, there lived three very large fish in a lake. The first two fish were very hardworking. But, the third fish only believed in fate and was extremely lazy.

One evening, the fish heard two fishermen talking, 'this lake is full of good fish' 'let's come tomorrow and catch some fish. Hearing this, the fish told their friends, tomorrow two fishermen will come to catch us. We should go to the other end of this lake

and hide. The fish decided to swim to a faraway place to save themselves.

But the third fish was extremely lazy. He said, 'you cowards; Why should we leave this place? If our fate is to die, nobody can save us. Therefore I won't go. The other fish tried to make him understand, but in vain.

The other fish quickly swam to the other side of the lake. Next morning, two fishermen came to the lake as planned to cast their nets. The lazy fish who believed in luck, along with some other fishes were caught in the net.

The Pied Piper of Hamelin

The town of Hamelin was located on the banks of a large river in northern Germany. The people of Hamelin were good. They were content in their little stone houses. The town became very prosperous over time. Then something terrible happened one day. Rats swarmed in packs all over the town. They attacked the barns and storehouses and ate all the corn. The people of Hamelin were terrified and asked the town mayor for help. We need an army of cats they said. But all the cats were dead. So they must poison the food then, however the rats had devoured a majority of the food. One day, they met a tall, thin man dressed in brightly colored robes came in the town. He wore a hat with a long feather and had a golden pipe tucked in his belt. He told the mayor, if you pay me a thousand florins, I shall rid your town of all the rats, he said. The mayor agreed. At dawn, the sound of a pipe drifted through the streets of

Hamelin. It was the pied piper who slowly walked through the streets, playing his pipe. All the rats followed him. They poured out of doors, windows and gutters. As he played his pipe, the rats followed him and marched into the river and drowned. Not a single rat was left. The pied piper went to the town hall and asked for his money but the mayor said, take these fifty florins you shall not have another florin. The pied piper was angry bitterly said, you should not have broken your promise, and you shall regret this .As the town slept peacefully that night, something strange happened. The pied piper played his pipe again, and all the children of the town came

Out of the town and reached the entrance of a cave. At the sound of the piper's music, the door of the cave opened. The piper went in, followed by the children. When the last child had gone in, the door creaked shut. The pied piper and the children were never seen again. Many years passed before there were children in Hamelin again. The people of Hamelin learnt to never break a promise they made.

