



How Rabbit Got Long Ears

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Responsibility, Problem-Solving, Choices & Consequences

Book Brief: Rabbit gets what he deserves in this humorous Native American tale.

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Anni Betts

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "Have you ever had animals or even a group of people not listen or follow directions? What happened?" Explain to students that this is a fable or folktale, a story that teaches a lesson.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, think about what lesson or central message the story is teaching us about Rabbit's choices and their consequences."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What problem does Rabbit cause for others?
- How do the other animals respond to Rabbit's actions?
- What warning does Rabbit receive, and does he listen?
- What happens because of Rabbit's choices?
- How does Rabbit change by the end of the story?



Think Aloud: "Rabbit keeps ignoring warnings and causing trouble. I'm noticing that his choices are building up consequences. I'm thinking this is going to be a trickster tale where the lesson is about listening and responsibility."

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "What problem did Rabbit cause? What choices did he make? What lesson does he learn?"

Extending Our Thinking: Ask, "What lesson do you think Rabbit learned in this story?" Discuss how actions have consequences, then have students connect this idea to their own lives by writing or drawing a time they learned from a mistake and what they would do differently next time.

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- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.