

A FABLE STORIES PICTURE BOOK

The Blue Jackal

A PANCHATANTRA STORY

Scan or tap to watch the animated story



Chandra was an ordinary jackal who lived near a great forest. One evening hunger drew him into a village. He spotted a piece of bread on the ground, but behind him some dogs were watching.



The dogs spotted him and gave chase! Chandra raced through the narrow lanes as fast as his legs would carry him, with the whole pack close behind.



Desperate for a hiding place, he slipped through an open gate into a dyer’s yard. In the dark he stumbled and fell with a splash into a deep barrel of blue dye. The dogs ran past, and they never saw him.



When the village was quiet, Chandra climbed out. His grey fur had turned a brilliant blue from his nose to his tail! He had never seen a jackal with such a colour.



He hurried back to the forest. Every animal who saw him stopped and stared. Nobody had ever seen a creature like this, and even the strongest animals kept their distance.



Chandra saw how afraid they were, and he made a daring plan. “I am Neelambar!” he announced. “The guardian of the forest has sent me from the heavens to be your king.” Impressed, the animals bowed.



Chandra settled onto a throne of roots. He gave the best food to himself, and he gave important jobs to the strongest animals. He ordered the other jackals to stay far away, because their voices would remind everyone of who he really was.



For a while the lion and the elephant obeyed him, and Chandra began to enjoy their praise. He started to believe that his blue coat really did make him greater than everyone else.



Then, one moonlit night, a pack of jackals howled in the distance. The sound drifted through the forest and reached the royal court. Chandra tried to sit still, but the call felt so familiar.



Forgetting his crown, his guards and his grand new name, Chandra lifted his head and answered with the howl of a jackal. The lion turned to look at him, and the whole court fell silent.



The End

At once the animals understood that Neelambar was only a jackal in a blue coat. Chandra admitted what had happened, and the angry animals sent him away from the throne. His coat slowly faded, and so did the respect that he had never really earned.

Moral: Pretending to be something you are not may win you a crown for a while, but your true nature always shows.

FABLE STORIES

Keep the adventure going

WATCH

Watch the animation

See Chandra's blue crown come to life.

PLAY

Play the puzzle

Help the Animals Unmask the Blue King, with video hints.

Tap to play →

COLOR

Color the characters

Free printable coloring pages in A4 and US Letter.

Tap to download →

All three are on the story page: fablestoriesworld.com/stories/the-blue-jackal

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PRINTING

Print in landscape at "Actual size" (100%), not "Fit", on the paper size that matches your file. Staple or bind the pages along the left edge.

USING THIS BOOK

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