

A FABLE STORIES PICTURE BOOK

The Lion and the Clever Rabbit

A PANCHATANTRA STORY

Scan or tap to watch the animated story



Bhairav was the strongest lion in the forest, and he wanted every animal to know it. He hunted whether he was hungry or not, and the whole forest lived in fear of him.



From his rocky ledge he looked down over the trees as if everything below belonged to him. Deer stopped grazing in the open, birds hushed their songs, and even the biggest animals stayed out of his way.



At last the frightened animals met beneath the old banyan tree. They could not beat Bhairav in a fight, so they made him an offer: each day one animal would come to his den, and in return he would leave everyone else alone. The proud lion agreed.



For many days the forest kept its sad promise. Then it was the turn of Chiku, a small rabbit. He was very frightened, but as he walked he looked carefully at the paths, the rocks and the shadows, and an idea began to grow.



Chiku arrived late on purpose. Bhairav was pacing outside his den, hungry and angry. Chiku bowed and said, “Great king, we sent more rabbits, but another lion stopped us on the way. He says that he is the true king of the forest!”



Bhairav's hunger was suddenly matched by his pride. "Take me to him at once!" he roared. Chiku led the way to an old stone well and said the other lion lived down inside it.



Bhairav leaned over the edge. In the still water he saw a lion glaring back at him, and when he roared, the well roared back. He was too angry to notice that every move below copied his own.



With a mighty leap, Bhairav jumped in to fight the rival lion. But there was no rival, only deep water and steep stone walls. The lion could not climb out, and his time of fear was over.



Chiku hurried home with the news. Deer returned to the meadows, birds sang openly again, and families walked through the forest without fear.



The End

Chiku had not won by pretending to be stronger than Bhairav. He noticed the lion’s weakness, his pride, and made a careful plan around it. His courage came from thinking clearly even when he was afraid.

Moral: Wisdom finds a way where strength cannot.

FABLE STORIES

Keep the adventure going

WATCH

Watch the animation

See Chiku and Bhairav come to life.

PLAY

Play the puzzle

Help Chiku Outsmart the Lion, 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-lion-and-the-clever-rabbit

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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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