

Tortoise and Hare Race Again

Written by Dan Bernstein

Illustrated by Andrew Glass

Holiday House

New York 2006

**About the Author**

Dan Bernstein is a writer for the *The Press Enterprise* in California. He is well known for his humorous writing and for his writing about politics and local events. He lives in Southern California.

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no photo available

**About the Illustrator**

Andrew Glass is best known for his pictures in Soap! Soap! Don't Forget the Soap! An Appalachian Folktale. In this book, he appears to use a combination of pencil or pen and watercolor paint, creating almost a patchwork quilt look on all the animals and background. He currently lives in New York with his wife.

no photo available

Other Books Written by Dan Bernstein

Emily and the Ostriches

When the Whale Came to My Town

Book Awards

Young Hoosier Book Award 2008-2009 Nominee

**Annotation**

Bernstein, Dan. Magnus at the Fire. Holiday House. *New York 2006*

In this story, the author takes a creative spin on the old fable of the tortoise and the hare. He writes of a rematch between the two competitors upon the request of the tortoise himself. You see, he was very tired of being so famous for his big win against the hare, so he decides it is time for a rematch. And he has a plan to make sure the hare is the winner this time. This is a delightful story for young children to show them that winning is not always as great as it appears to be. In addition to such a cute little story, the illustrations have a patchwork quilt appearance that make the animals in the story look so warm and cuddly. It's like you could just step into the book and curl right up with them.

**Genre**

Fiction-Picture Storybook/Fable

**Point of View**

3<sup>rd</sup> person

**Theme**

Winning is not always as great as it seems.

**Conflict**

This story presents an external conflict between the tortoise and the hare.

**Conflict Resolution**

The tortoise and hare race again and this time the hare wins, well kind of.

**Characters**

Mr. Slow and Steady (the tortoise), hare, Easter Bunny, Pete E. Rabbit, Warren Rabbit, Rabbit Foote, Hare E. Plodder, Stu Rabbit, Jack Rabbit, Rabbit E. Lee, hare's mother

**Setting**

This story takes place in a village in the forest during the day.

**Interest Level and Reading Level**

Interest Level: ages 4-8

Reading Level: 2.5

**Booktalk**

We all know the story of The Tortoise and the Hare, but have you heard about their rematch? Yes, that's right. The poor tortoise became so tired of his fame from beating the hare in a race that he decided it was time to race again. Only this time, he would make sure the hare won. He no longer wanted to be famous. So, the tortoise came up with a great idea. He would find a way to make sure that the hare crossed the finish line before he did. But what will he come up with? And will it really work? Will the hare finally win the race?

**Language**

alas (pg. 3)-unfortunately, with sadness

hapless (pg. 4)-unlucky

plodded (pg. 12)-walked heavily

bolted (pg. 15)-ran really quickly, with a spurt of speed

salute (pg. 23)-when you raise your right hand to your head and point it out toward another person, usually someone in the military

Dashing (pg. 28)-very stylish, dressed very well

**Indiana Academic Standards**

English/LA: K.1.1, K.1.2, K.1.22, K.2.1, K.2.2, K.2.5, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.6, 1.3.3, 2.2.5, 2.2.10, 2.3.1, 2.3.5, 2.3.7, 3.1.6, 3.2.9, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.3.8

Math: K.5.2, 1.1.6, 2.5.10

Science: K.1.2, K.3.2, K.4.2, 1.1.2, 1.4.1, 1.6.1

Social Studies: K.1.4, 1.1.7

**Anticipation Statements**

	Agree/Disagree	Page Number	Were you right?	Reflect
1. Being a winner is the best thing in the world.				
2. A rabbit would beat a tortoise in a race.				
3. The best way to wake up from a nap is with an alarm.				
4. Slow and steady wins the race.				
5. A robot is better than a human or animal.				

**“If You Like, You’ll Love”**

Emily and the Ostriches by Dan Bernstein and Gary Aagaard

Ananse’s Feast: An Ashanti Tale by Tololowa M. Mollel

Monster Manners by Andrew Glass

**Across the Curriculum Connections**

Science: Create an invention that will actually work to keep the hare awake for the entire race. Name the invention, tell how it works, and tell why it for sure will keep the hare awake.

Standards: Science K.1.2, 2.1.5, 2.1.6, 3.1.5, 3.1.7

Resources: paper, pencil, books about inventions

**Class/Group Activity**

Math: Work on conversions with students using the 6-week parade that Tortoise has to participate in. Ask students to figure out how many months, days, and minutes are in 6 weeks? Then ask the following questions: If tortoise began the parade on June 10, when did the parade end? and If the parade ended on April 20, when did it begin?

Standards: Math 1.6.1, 3.5.12

Resources: conversion chart, paper, pencil, questions written on overhead

### Resources

- This is a coloring page and writing prompt about rabbits. Students could complete this after listening to the story.

[http://www.abcteach.com/free/c/colorandwrite\\_rabbit\\_elem.pdf](http://www.abcteach.com/free/c/colorandwrite_rabbit_elem.pdf)

- This is a video of The Tortoise and the Hare. After watching the video and reading the story, students could discuss the differences between the two.

*The Tortoise and the Hare* from Walt Disney Studios 1935

### Book Activities

#### Activity One

#### Individual Activity

Supplies Needed: The Tortoise and the Hare Race Again by Dan Bernstein, The Tortoise and the Hare An Aesop's Fable retold by Angela McAllister, a large Venn diagram to post in the classroom, paper, pencils

- On the first day, read The Tortoise and the Hare
- On the second day, read The Tortoise and the Hare Race Again
- On the third day, put up the Venn diagram and have the class give you answers to fill in how the two stories are alike and different. Be sure to have at least 5-8 different things in each of the three bubbles. You want a lot of different things for students to be able to choose from.
- On the fourth day, have students write a short piece comparing and contrasting the two stories. Be sure to have out the Venn diagram and the two books for them to look back at. They can also use their own thoughts about how they are alike and different. Have students hand in when finished.

#### Standards

English/LA: 1.4.1, 1.5.5, 1.6.1, 1.6.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.3, 2.5.6, 2.5.7, 2.6.1, 2.6.2, 3.3.7, 3.5.5

#### Activity Two

#### Small Group Activity (2-3 students)

Supplies needed: The Tortoise and the Hare Race Again by Dan Bernstein, large pieces of bulletin board paper (one per group), markers, crayons, pencils

- Begin by reading story to students. Then explain that students will be drawing a map of the path that the hare and the tortoise would have taken on their race against each other.
- Divide students into groups of 2-3. Then pass out paper, markers, and crayons to each group.

- Give students about 20-30 minutes to draw their map. Be sure to have them include a key on their map and use lots of details. They can be as creative as they would like, as long as the map is realistic.

Standards

Math: 1.4.5, 3.4.7

Social Studies: 1.3.1, 1.3.2

**Bibliography**

Amazon Book Website

<http://www.amazon.com/Tortoise-Hare-Race-Again/dp/0823418677>

Information about Dan Bernstein

<http://www.pe.com/>

Information about Andrew Glass

<http://biography.jrank.org/pages/422/Glass-Andrew-1949.html>

ABC Teach website

<http://abcteach.com/>

**Discussion Questions**

Pre-reading

(cover) Why do you think the hare has clocks around his neck?

(cover) Who do you think won this race the first time?

(cover) Why are they having a second race?

During reading

(pages 4-5) Do you recognize any of these rabbits' names?

(page 7) Why do you think the tortoise did not like being the winner?

(page 13) Do you think the clocks are going to help the hare? Why or why not?

Post-reading

(page 23) Did you think the fake hare looked a lot like the actual hare?

Do you think the hare will ever find out who really won the race?

If you were the tortoise, what you have done to make sure the hare won the race this time around?