Panchatantra Stories - 1

The foolish Lion and the clever Rabbit

Long time ago there lived a ferocious lion in the forest. It was a greedy lion and started killing all the animals in the forest. Seeing this, the animals gathered and decided to approach the lion with the offer of one animal of each species volunteering itself to be eaten by the lion everyday. So every day it was the turn of one of the animals and in the end came the rabbits’ turn. The rabbits chose a old rabbit among them. The old rabbit was wise. It decided to take its own sweet time to go to the Lion. The Lion was hungry and getting impatient on not seeing any animal come by and swore to kill all animals the next day.

The rabbit then went to the Lion by sunset. The Lion was angry at him. But the wise rabbit was calm and slowly told the lion that it was not his fault. He told the lion that a group of rabbits were coming to him for the day but on the way, an angry lion attacked them all and ate all rabbits but himself. Somehow, he escaped to reach safely, the rabbit said. He said that the other lion was challenging the supremacy of this lion. The lion was naturally very enraged and asked to be taken to the location of the other lion.

The wise rabbit agreed and led the lion towards a deep well filled with water. Then he showed the lion his reflection in the water of the well. The lion was furious and started growling and naturally its image in the water, the other lion, was also equally angry. Then the lion jumped into the water to attack the other lion and kill it but lost its life in the well. Thus the wise rabbit saved the forest and all animals from the proud lion.

Moral of the story: Intelligence wins over might
The Geese and the Tortoise

Once upon a time there lived a pair of geese and a tortoise and all three were great friends. One day they faced a huge drought and the lake in which they lived was drying up. They decided to leave the lake and look for a new lake. But the tortoise could not fly. So the geese thought of a plan, where by the tortoise would have to hold a piece of stick by its mouth which would be carried by the two geese. The only condition was that the tortoise should not speak or it will fall from the stick to death. The tortoise agreed to be silent.

But on seeing this strange arrangement, people on the way started laughing at the tortoise. Unable to control his anxiety, he spoke out “What are they laughing about?” and so he fell to his death. If he had kept quiet he could have saved his own life.

Moral of the story: Destiny cannot be changed.

Questions:
Is Rabbit clever or Lion?
Is the lion good animal in the story?
Where did Rabbit take Lion?
Are the Geese good friends to Tortoise?
How did Geese carry Tortoise?
Did Tortoise listen to his friends?

Durga Stotra

Om Sarva Mangala Maangalye Shive Sarvaarththa Saadhike
Sharanye Triyambake Gauri, Naaraayani Namostute

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfKdcmpprVY

Goddess Durga resides in us as physical strength, will power, determination, perseverance, courage and valor. She can be awakened by positive thinking, positive speaking, and positive actions.
Coloring exercise – Q for Quiet