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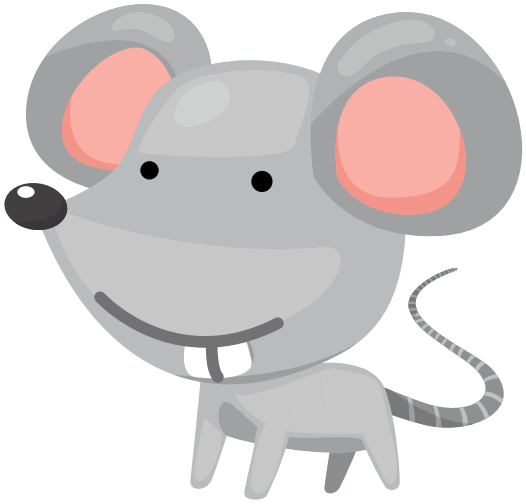
BEDTIME STORY

The Lion and The Mouse



One summer's day, a lion was happily fast asleep when a little mouse came along and ran up and down over his face. He hadn't meant to do it. He just was just hurrying to get home and not paying much attention.

This woke the lion up and made him very angry. He put his paw on the mouse's tail to hold him in place and said, "What do you mean by waking me up? You shall pay for this!" And he opened his mouth to eat him.

"Please do not eat me Mr. Lion!" Squealed the mouse, who by now was very frightened. "I didn't mean to wake you, I was just in a rush, please let me go. I promise never to trouble you again." "No, I will not let you go!" Roared the lion.

"Please do," cried the frightened mouse. "If you will let me go perhaps I can do something for you sometime?"

This made the lion laugh. "You? Do something for ME?" He said. "What a joke!" And with that the lion laughed even harder.

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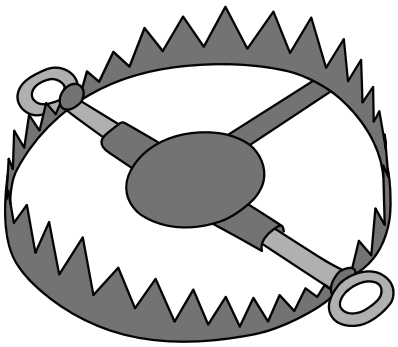
When he had finished, he thought for a moment before saying to the mouse, "Well, since you are such a little fellow, I will let you go this time, but never let me see you around here again." With that, he lifted his great paw and let the mouse go.

As he scampered off, the mouse said, "Thank you, Mr. Lion, I shall not forget your kindness."

Some time after this, the lion was walking through the jungle when he got caught in a trap set by some hunters. The lion roared and tried frantically to get free, but the hunters tied him to a tree while they went to get a wagon to carry him away.



The lion roared so loudly that the ground shook, and the little mouse, who still lived nearby - heard him. "That kind lion is in trouble," he said. "I must go and see what I can do to help him." So he ran as fast as he could to the lion.

When he got there, the little mouse saw that the lion was tied with ropes and said, "Don't worry Mr. Lion, be quiet and I shall set you free." The lion stopped roaring immediately, and did as he was told while the little mouse quickly chewed through the ropes with his teeth.

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The lion could see the hunters coming back in the distance. "Hurry, they're coming back!" But the mouse only had one more rope to chew through, and in no time the lion was free and they ran off together back into the jungle.

When they were safely out of sight, the lion turned to the little mouse and said "Thank You, you saved my life."

"Well, now we're even," said the mouse, and from that day on, they were very good friends.