The Aesop for Children
by Aesop

*Aesop for Children* (translator not identified), 1919. Illustrations by Milo Winter (1886-1956).

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There was once a little Kid whose growing horns made him think he was a grown-up Billy Goat and able to take care of himself. So one evening when the flock started home from the pasture and his mother called, the Kid paid no heed and kept right on nibbling the tender grass. A little later when he lifted his head, the flock was gone.

He was all alone. The sun was sinking. Long shadows came creeping over the ground. A chilly little wind came creeping with them making scary noises in the grass. The Kid shivered as he thought of the terrible Wolf. Then he started wildly over the field, bleating for his mother. But not half-way, near a clump of trees, there was the Wolf!

The Kid knew there was little hope for him.

"Please, Mr. Wolf," he said trembling, "I know you are going to eat me. But first please pipe me a tune, for I want to dance and be merry as long as I can."

The Wolf liked the idea of a little music before eating, so he struck up a merry tune and the Kid leaped and frisked gaily.

Meanwhile, the flock was moving slowly homeward. In the still evening air the Wolf's piping carried far. The Shepherd Dogs pricked up their ears. They recognized the song the Wolf sings before a feast, and in a moment they were racing back to the pasture. The Wolf's song ended suddenly, and as he ran, with the Dogs at his heels, he called himself a fool for turning piper to please a Kid, when he should have stuck to his butcher's trade.

Moral of the story: Do not let anything turn you from your purpose.
VOCABULARY

pasture

heed

bleating

gaily
Do not let anything turn you from your purpose.
Do not let anything turn you from your purpose.
STORY SEQUENCING

WHAT HAPPENED FIRST?

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

WHAT HAPPENED LAST?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?
DRAW A PICTURE
STORY QUESTIONS

Describe the Kid:

What mistake do you think the Kid made?

What did the Kid do to keep from getting eaten by the wolf?

Who saved the Kid’s life?

What type of animal is a Kid?
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What mistake do you think the Kid made?

What did the Kid do to keep from getting eaten by the wolf?

Who saved the Kid's life?

What type of animal is a Kid?