



Parent Page

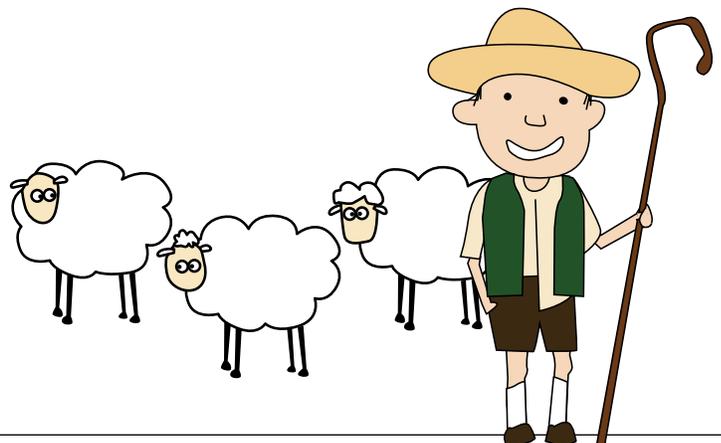


The Boy Who Cried Wolf

We are learning about trust and telling the truth. We heard the story, “The Boy Who Cried Wolf”.

Here are some things you can do at home:

- **Read the story, “The Boy Who Cried Wolf”.** You can read the story on the back of this page. You can also check out the book from the library. The story might also be on the internet.
- **Talk about the story.** When you talk with your child about the story, use the words truth, lie and trustworthy as much as possible.
 - Why did the boy yell “Wolf! Wolf!” the first and second time?
(Answer: He was bored.)
 - Why did the people in the village get upset with the boy?
(Answer: They had to leave what they were doing, and there was not a wolf bothering the sheep. The boy lied.)
 - What happened when the boy really did see a wolf and yelled, “Wolf! Wolf!”? (Answer: No one came to help.)
 - Why didn’t anyone come to help?
(Answer: The villagers did not believe there was a wolf.)
- **Talking about truth and lying is important.** Children might not understand what the truth is. They will learn by watching and listening to you and others talking about telling the truth and being trustworthy. Remember, children learn when they hear things many times. Be sure to point out examples when they happen!



The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Once upon a time, there was a shepherd boy who lived in a village. It was his job to watch the sheep and keep them safe. He was very lonely. He had to stay on the hillside by himself with just the sheep. He did this for a long time every day. One afternoon, he was very bored. He wanted something interesting to happen, but the sheep just kept eating the grass.

Then he had an idea. At the top of his lungs he yelled, “WOLF! WOLF!” He knew that the other villagers would come right away if a wolf were attacking the sheep.

Sure enough, the villagers came running to help. When they got there, there was no wolf. First, they were confused. Then, they were angry, saying, “Why did you yell, ‘WOLF! WOLF!’? There is no wolf!”

The boy answered, “I was bored. It was fun watching all of you run up here!” The villagers left. They were very angry. They did not think it was fun.

The next day, the boy was bored again. He remembered how exciting it had been when all the villagers came to help him. So he played the same trick on the villagers. At the top of his lungs he yelled, “WOLF! WOLF!”

Once again, the villagers came running. Once again, they found that there was no wolf. They were very angry as they stomped back down to the village.

The following day, the boy was watching the sheep quietly munch on their grass. Suddenly, there was a wolf creeping towards the sheep! The boy got very scared! He couldn’t chase away the wolf by himself! He yelled at the top of his lungs, “WOLF! WOLF!” but no one came. So he yelled again, at the tippy-top of his lungs, “WOLF! WOLF!” but no one came.

The villagers thought he was just playing the silly trick again. Before the boy could do anything, the wolf chased all of his sheep away. That mean, old wolf might have even gobbled up a few. The boy was very sad and very frightened. He did not know what to do.

Later, one of the villagers came and found the boy, who was crying alone on the hillside. “There was a wolf!” he said. “It chased away all of our sheep! Why didn’t you come and help me when I called?”

The villager said, “We thought you were playing a trick on us. If you keep lying to us, we will not believe you. We did not know that this time you were telling the truth. We want to help you, but we could not trust you. You played a trick on us.”

After that, the boy never told another lie. When he yelled, “WOLF! WOLF!” all the villagers came to help and that mean, old wolf went to bed hungry.