



# The Wise Deer and the Cowardly Tiger

How a deer fooled a tiger

■ An Indian folktale told by Dr. Mike Lockett, *The Normal Storyteller*; edited by Linda Ludwig  
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There was a **dense** forest on the sides of a mountain. Many kinds of animals lived in the forest. A deer was eating grass and leaves with her two young ones. The young ones **wandered** happily here and there. One day the deer followed her **fawns** into a cave. The deer was frightened because it was a tiger's cave. There were bones of dead animals all over the cave. Thankfully the tiger was not inside the cave at the time.

## Talk About It

- Why was the tiger afraid of the deer?  
- *Because the deer ...*
- Why was the jackal described as cunning?  
- *Because the jackal ...*
- What lesson can we learn from this story?  
- *This story teaches us ...*

The deer was trying to lead her young ones out of the cave when she heard a loud **roar**. She saw the tiger at a distance. The tiger was coming toward the cave. It was dangerous to go out of the cave now. She thought of a plan. The tiger had come closer to the cave. The deer raised her voice and shouted, "My dear young children do not **weep**. I shall capture a tiger for you to eat. You can have a good dinner."

## Usage Tip

*There were bones of dead animals **all over** the cave.*  
(p. 44, line 8)

片語 all over 意指 everywhere 表示「到處、各處」。

- Francine's clothes are all over the floor in her room.

Your turn

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The tiger heard these words and became frightened. He thought, "A dangerous animal is waiting inside to capture me. I shall run away to escape death." The tiger began to run away as fast as possible.

A jackal saw the tiger. "Why are you running?" the jackal asked.

The tiger said, "My friend, a powerful and **fierce** animal is in my cave. The young ones are crying for a tiger to eat. The mother is promising to capture one for them. So, I am running away."

The **cunning** jackal was now sure the tiger was a **coward**. It said, "Don't be afraid. No animal is fiercer than a tiger. Let's go together to find out."

But the tiger said, "I don't want to take a chance. You may run away, and I will be left alone to die."

The jackal said, "Trust me. Let's **knot** our tails together. Then I won't be able to leave you." The tiger finally agreed, so the jackal tied their tails together, and they walked toward the cave. ▶

### Usage Tip

*The tiger **finally** agreed, so the jackal tied their tails together, and they walked toward the cave. (p. 45, line 21)*

副詞 **finally** 表「終於」，**finally agreed** 表達出「好不容易終於同意」的意思。finally 可以放在句首、首尾或是一般動詞前面。

• Even though he was tired, David finally agreed to go out to eat.

Your turn

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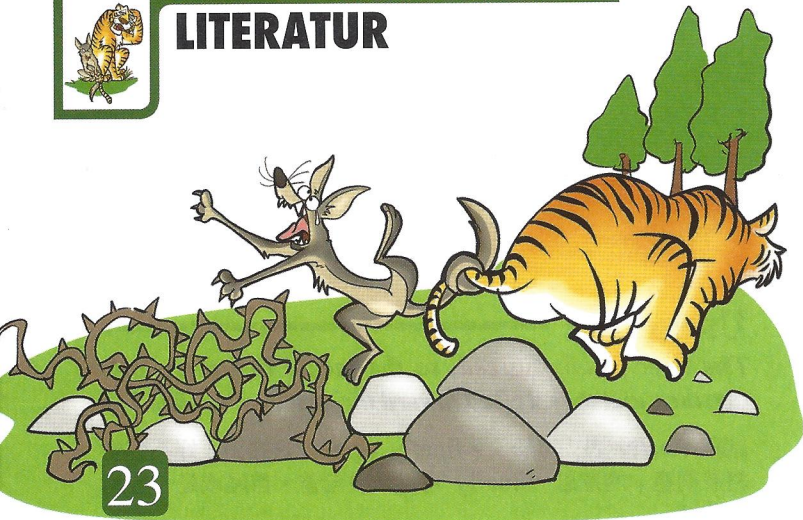
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The deer saw the jackal and the tiger coming together. She again raised her voice. She **yelled** toward her children standing inside the cave, "Children, I requested my friend, the clever jackal, to capture a tiger for us. Now look! The jackal has **seized** a tiger. He has tied the tiger's tail to his tail. This is to prevent the tiger from escaping. We will soon have the tiger for our dinner."

When the tiger heard this, he was shocked. He was sure now that the jackal had lied to him. So the tiger decided to escape from the terrible animal standing inside his cave. He started running. He **completely** forgot about the jackal. He dragged the jackal over rocks and thorns. In the escape, the jackal was caught between two rocks. The tiger pulled with all his might, and his tail got cut. The jackal was killed in this incident. The tailless tiger ran away to another part of the forest. The deer and her young ones safely left the tiger's cave. Brains had won over **strength**. 🦉

## Usage Tip

*She again raised her voice.* (p. 46, line 2)

當某人提高音量大聲說話時可以用片語 raise one's voice。

- Mary raised her voice when she called her children to come to dinner.

Your turn

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## Word Bank

**dense** (adj) [dens] 濃密的

The forest was so **dense** that we couldn't pass through it.

**wander** (v) ['wʌndə] 閒逛；遊蕩

The kids **wandered** around the neighborhood looking for their friends.

**roar** (n) [rɔː] 咆哮；吼叫

The lion's loud **roar** is very scary.

**weep** (v) [wip] 哭泣

The little boy began to **weep** when he heard that his cat had died.

**fierce** (adj) [fɪrs] 凶猛的；駭人的

The **fierce** dog down the street barks loudly when people pass by.

**cunning** (adj) ['kʌnɪŋ] 狡猾的，狡詐的

The **cunning** man tricked many people into giving him money.

**coward** (n) ['kəʊəd] 膽小鬼，懦夫

Everyone thought that Patrick was a **coward** for not fighting in the war.

**knot** (v) [nɒt] 把...打結

Emily **knotted** two scarves together and wrapped them around her waist to use as a belt.

**yell** (v) [jel] 叫喊，吼叫

Maria **yelled** at her children to climb down out of the tree and go in for dinner.

**seize** (v) [siz] 抓獲；抓住

The police **seized** the thief by the arm so he couldn't escape.

**completely** (adv) [kəm'plɪtli] 完全地，徹底地

Marion **completely** changed during her stay in Italy.

**strength** (n) [streŋkθ] 力量；力氣

Jeremy has the **strength** of a superhero!

## More Information

**cowardly** (adj) ['kəʊədli] 膽小的，懦怯的

**fawn** (n) [fɔːn] 幼鹿

**jackal** (n) ['dʒækəl] 胡狼，豺

**thorn** (n) [θɔːn] 荊棘，(植物莖上的)刺

## Word Bank Focus

**roaring** (adj) ['rɔːɪŋ] 熊熊的；強烈的

They built a **roaring** fire to stay warm during the cold night.

**roar** (v) [rɔː] 吼叫；咆哮

The boss **roared** angrily at his employees when he found out someone had been stealing money.