

LATIN THROUGH STORIES LEVEL 3: FĀBULAE DĒ HOMINIBUS ET BĒSTIĪS

FABLES OF MEN AND ANIMALS

FOR GRADES 2 AND UP

Level 3 Description: This level focuses on fables, organized around the following four broad themes/virtues: friendship and charity; fortitude and perseverance; prudence; justice and honesty. Each theme includes 3-4 fables, and students will do various activities related to each fable for 6 consecutive classes. Fables are introduced with a picture study of an illustration, a very basic “Gouin series” version and a Little Socratic Talk in Lessons 1 and 2. Students then read a simple version of the fable in a guided reading, and then read the same fable in subsequent classes in a more elaborate dialogue version, often with variations or additional characters. These can also serve for informal reader’s theater or a more formal performance. We would suggest you plan an extra 2-4 class periods after each unit (theme) for the fable review activities and for reader’s theater with one or more of the Theme’s fables.

For all fable versions, PowerPoints are provided with images and the text, and all fables are meant for oral, interactive, guided reading (i.e. students don’t need to be independent, fluent readers). Please note that fables are written with the intent to communicate the story as simply but engagingly as possible. Language is not chosen with a particular grammar focus in mind, however, the grammar builds on that acquired in Levels 1 and 2. New grammar features used extensively in Level 3 are:

- The preterit and imperfect tenses
- Present participles
- Superlatives
- Adverbs

However, other, more “advanced” elements of grammar are used occasionally with the assumption that they are understood from context, e.g. there is occasional use of the pluperfect and future tenses, relative clauses, subjunctive, etc.

FABLES (for Gouin series & readings)

1) **Theme 1: Amicitia et Caritas:** (4 fables: Lessons 1-24)

- **The Mouse and the Lion** [1-6]
- **The Fox and Stork/Crane** [7-12]
- **The Bear and the Travelers** [13-18]
- **The Lion and the Shepherd / Androcles and the Lion** [19-24]

2) **Theme 2: Perseverantia:** (3 fables: Lessons 25-42)

- **The Tortoise and the Hare** [25-30]
- **The Crow and the Pitcher** (paired/contrasted with **Fox and Grapes**) [31-36]
- **The Farmer and his Sons** [37-42]

3) **Theme 3: Prudentia:** (3 fables: Lessons 43-60)

- **The Fox and the Crow** (paired with **The Dog and his Shadow**) [43-48]
- **The Old Lion and the Fox** (paired with **The Horse and the Old Lion**) [49-54]
- **A Wolf, Kid, and Goat** (paired with **The Fox and the Goat**) [55-60]

4) **Theme 4: Iustitia/Probitas:** (4 fables: Lessons 61-84)

- **The Boy who Cried Wolf** [61-66]
- **The Travelers and the Gold coins** [67-72]
- **The Honest Woodcutter** [73-78]
- **The Cobbler Turned Doctor** [79-84]

Lesson Components (for each 6-lesson cycle)

Lesson 1:

- I. Warm up options:
 - prayers & hymns
 - non-religious proverbs
 - short grammar drills for 4th grade & up
- II. Song
- III. Picture study to introduce new fable
- IV. Gouin series Fable intro (present tense)
- V. (sometimes) TPR game with new & old verbs

Lesson 2

- I. Warm up options:
 - prayers & hymns
 - non-religious proverbs
 - short grammar drills for 4th grade & up
- II. Song
- III. Gouin series cont'd
- IV. Little Socratic Talk for vocab/grammar/story introduction

Lesson 3

- I. Warm up options:
 - prayers & hymns
 - non-religious proverbs
 - short grammar drills for 4th grade & up
- II. Songs
- III. Gouin series cont'd
- IV. Fable reading: introductory version (between 150-240 words, in past tense; PPT version includes possible questions to ask in Latin)
- V. Review game

Lesson 4

- I. Warm up options:
 - prayers & hymns
 - non-religious proverbs
 - short grammar drills for 4th grade & up
- II. Song
- III. Gouin series cont'd (with grammar extension: rewrite in past tense)
- IV. Fable reading: expanded dialog version part I; often with activity (see list below)

Lesson 5

- I. Warm up options:
 - prayers & hymns
 - non-religious proverbs
 - short grammar drills for 4th grade & up
- II. Song
- III. Gouin series cont'd (present or past tense version)
- IV. Fable reading: expanded dialog version Part II; often with activity (see list below)

Lesson 6

- I. Warm up options:
 - prayers & hymns
 - non-religious proverbs
 - short grammar drills for 4th grade & up
- II. Songs (3 min)
- III. Gouin series cont'd (present or past tense version)
- IV. Fable Re-Reading and activities such as
 - dramatizing fable
 - guided oral retelling/narration
 - guided written narration
 - rewriting different versions
 - sorting sentences

- matching sentences (sentence halves)
- fill in blanks with words from story
- matching characters to statements about them/things they might do/say
- text with factual/content mistakes, students identify/correct
- 2 truths and a lie (written and oral)
- Possible/probable or impossible/improbable
- Venn Diagram to compare intro version of fable to a similar new fable

Ideas for Pacing

- There are 84 fully scripted lessons, with 6 lessons per fable.
- Lessons might take around 30-40 minutes; with 2nd graders you might only do 20 minutes at a time (and rearrange lessons accordingly)
- Take an extra day or two after each Theme to complete the Theme Review activities and to give students time to practice (and perhaps perform for another class) the reader's theater version of their favorite fable of that unit.
- Depending on how often you have Latin, you might also take an extra day after each fable (so after every sixth lesson) to catch up with any work you left out, and to give students more time to practice and perfect their reader's theater of that fable, perhaps occasionally even sending them to other classes to perform the fable. You might also give them a short 5-10 minute quiz based on the items in the quiz banks.