

Diana Fernandez

Audience: 1st/2nd grade learning how-to-read

Setting: Forest during Spring season

Characters: hare, snake, deer, beaver, grizzly bear

Perhaps try not to assign gender to hare- name tba

Mother warns child against leaving their property because the communities beyond their bounds are dangerous and should not be spoken to.

Child remains curious about the world and creatures that live outside and wanders off in the light of day.

After running for a few minutes the child stops to breathe and take in all that surrounds Hare.

Along the way, hare encounters different animals [one on one conversation]  
\_ though initially wary, Hare's curiosity overcomes the fear and begins to share a conversation with a new animal.

Hare follows each animal to their home and sees how they live and what they're like. He appreciates how unique each animal is and that they are all kind and loving.

Hare is far from home and does not have access to food, relies on new friends for necessities. Experiences first-hand their true nature and pure intentions.

**HARE:**

- They live in forms, shallow depressions in the ground, which give them some shelter from the wind and rain.
- They eat grasses, herbs and cereal crops

**SNAKE:**

- climbs trees by wrapping themselves around the trunk. They constrict their upper body around the trunk and wrap the lower body. The lower body then upholds the snake as the upper half climbs further up.
- Hunt: bite prey and inject with venom to paralyze them. They also wrap themselves around the body of their prey
- Live in burrows or beneath rocks (Hare could stop to breathe in front of a rock and gets surprised by a snake slithering)

**DEER:** (Hare walking with snake, comes across deer, is marveled at the size of it. Asks a question, start talking, snake needs to go hunt, Hare says bye and follows deer).

- Eat grass, shrubs, leaves
- Social travel in herds
- Sleep on ground-- hidden, warm, and close to food

**BEAVER:**

- Nocturnal animal (Hare could be leaving deer, while walking hears noise by a river and decides to go see what is causing the disturbance)
- Live in lodges-- beavers spend 12 hours of the night keeping their habitat
- “Beavers eat leaves, roots and bark from aspens, willows, maples and poplar trees”.
- “Beavers are very social and live in groups called colonies. One lodge is often the home for a monogamous couple, their young and the yearlings born the year before.”

**BEAR:**

- (Hare lets beavers continue their work and decides to take a nap nearby-- wakes up to mamabear and cubs bathing in the river)
- Consumes: berries, salmon, plant roots, small mammals, rodents
- Dig dens in the ground/hillside [tunnel leads to cave]

Hare understands that mother acted out of fear for his protection and of the unknown. Hare is not resentful- she simply did not get to witness what Hare has and does not know.

Hare returns home and tells the family of everything Hare has seen and learned and encourages them to leave their home and experience the world together. Though unsure, the mother decides to agree to his request and the whole family ventures out to meet Hare's new friends. Everyone gets along and they decide to move closer into the forest to live with the other families in union.

Source Citations:

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