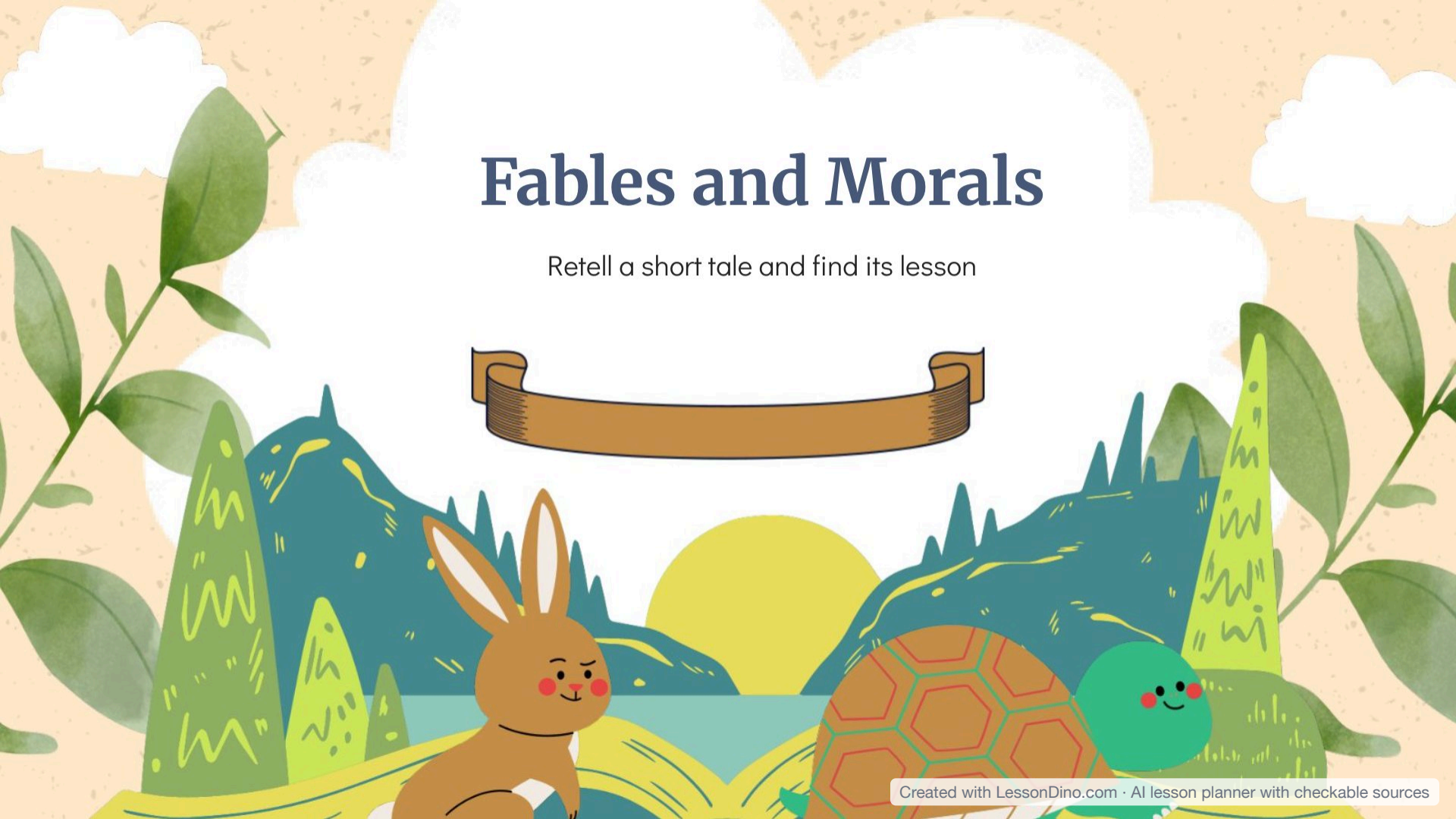
Fables and Morals

Retell a short tale and find its lesson



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REALLY, REALLY OLD TALES

2,500+

years people have told these fables

They were told out loud for hundreds of years before they were made into books.



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What Makes a Fable?

📖

Short Tale

A quick story you can retell in order.

🐾

Talking Animals

Animals talk and act just like people.

⭐

Moral at End

Moral means a lesson for how to live.



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Photo: Joshua Tree National Park · Public domain · flickr via Openverse

Slow and Steady

A tortoise races a speedy hare. Who do you think will win?

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Vote With Your Heart

Would you rather be slow and steady or fast and speedy?

A Slow and steady, keep going

B Fast and speedy, zoom ahead

Vote with your hands, then explain why.



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Watch: What Is a Fable?



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Watch who talks and acts
- Listen for the lesson to learn
- Clap when the story ends

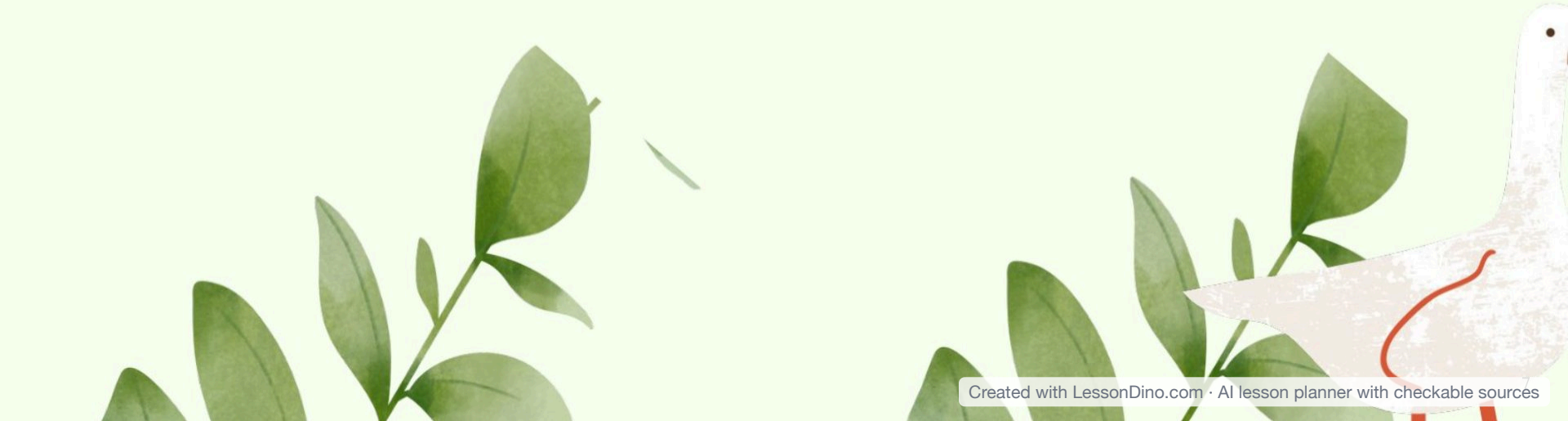
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How to Retell

- Who was there?
- What happened first?
- What was the lesson?

Retell It

- Where was it?
- What was the problem?



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Watch: Tortoise and the Hare



▶ 0:00 – 4:22

- Watch how both racers act
- Notice the big surprise ending
- Think: what is the moral?

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Your task

With your partner, retell the race in order and pick its moral.

1. Take turns telling who, what happened, ending.
2. Act the slow walk and fast nap.
3. Agree on the lesson in one sentence.

15 min

In pairs

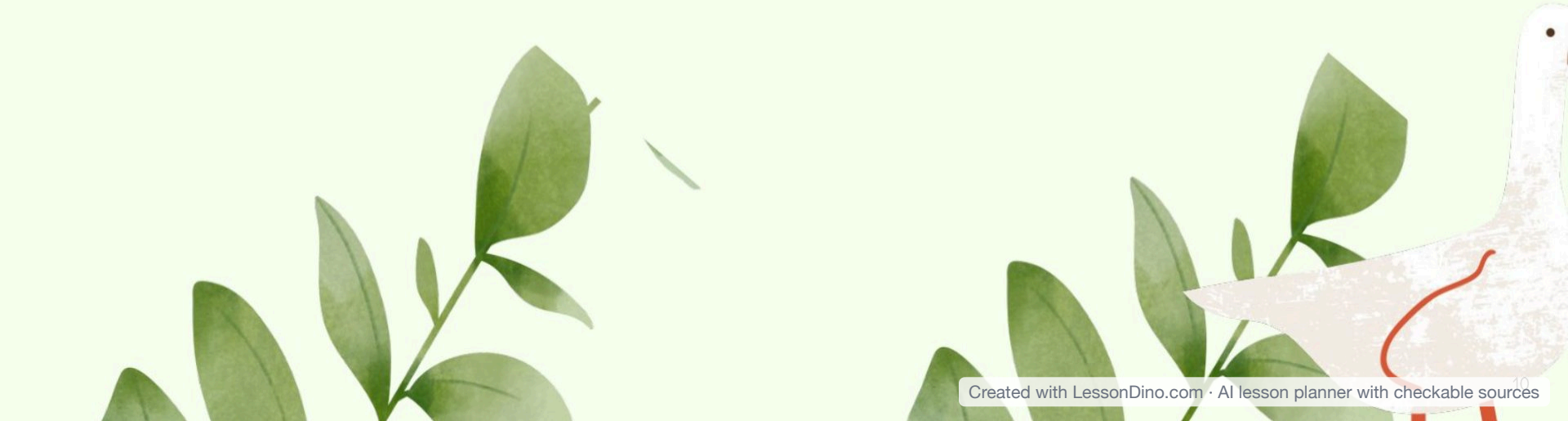




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Find the Moral in 3 Steps

- Retell what happened first, next, last.
- Ask how the characters changed.
- Say the lesson in one short sentence.



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True or false?

A fable is a short story that teaches a lesson.

Animals in fables never talk like people.

The moral is often told at the end.

Fables come from only one country.



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