

The tortoise and the Geese

Once upon a time, there lived a tortoise who lived near a lake right next to two geese. The geese were his best friends. One summer, it grew so hot that the lake started to dry up. One goose said, "The lake is drying up, there's hardly any water left for us to drink." The other goose said, "We must fly away soon, and find another home." The tortoise said, "Friends, I will come along. Please take me with you." "But you can't fly, and you walk slowly. We'll be so far ahead of you, if you try to follow us." one goose said. "Please! Please find a way to take me along, too." the tortoise begged.

The geese were good friends, so they came up with a way to take the tortoise with them. "We will hold the end of this stick with our beaks. You must hold the middle of the stick with your teeth." a goose said. "And you must not say a word until we are back to the ground. If you do so, you will surely fall down." the other said. "Uh! Uh! I promise I won't utter a single word." The tortoise said.

And so the two geese flew into the sky, carrying the stick and the tortoise. As they were flying, some sparrows saw the tortoise and the geese. "Look at the tortoise. I wonder where the geese are taking him." a sparrow said. "I hope the geese are not troubling him or kidnapping him." the other said.

The sparrows' comments made the tortoise so upset that he forgot all about the promise that he made to his friends. He opened his mouth to scold the sparrows, "Hey!" And when he did, he fell right to the ground. The poor geese felt very sorry for the tortoise. "I wish our friend had thought twice before speaking." "I wish he would have kept his mouth shut that he would still be here with us." The geese were right. We should always think before we speak and listen to those who wish us well.

故事來源：https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=efBL_5h-xf8