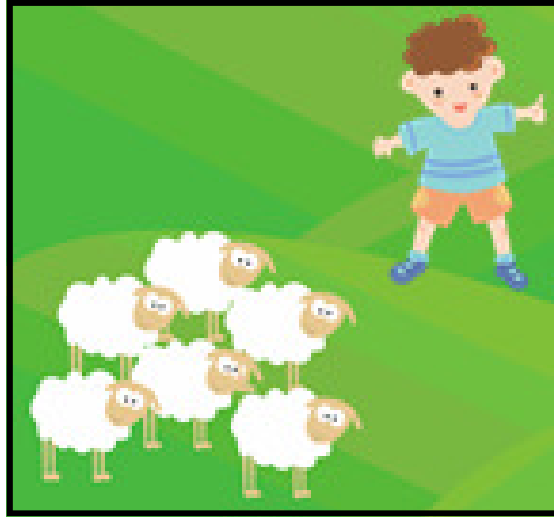


The Boy who Cried Wolf



Once upon a time there was a shepherd boy who spent his days on the hillside watching over the village sheep.

Eventually, he became bored and to amuse himself he decided to sing,

“Wolf! Wolf! The wolf is chasing the sheep!”

Immediately, the villagers came running up the hill to help the boy drive the wolf away. But, when they arrived, there was no wolf. The villagers went grumbling down the hill. Later, the boy again became bored and again he sang,

“Wolf! Wolf! The wolf is chasing the sheep!”

To his naughty delight, he watched the villagers run up the hill to help him drive the wolf away. When the villagers saw no wolf they sternly said,

“Save your frightened song for when there is really something wrong! Don’t cry ‘wolf’ when there is NO wolf!”

But the boy just grinned and watched them go grumbling down the hill once more.

Later, he saw a REAL wolf prowling about his flock. He leaped into the air and sang out as loudly as he could,
“Wolf! Wolf!”

But the villagers thought he was trying to fool them again,
and so they didn't come.

At sunset, the villagers wondered why the shepherd boy had not returned to the village with their sheep. So, they ran up the hill to find the boy. They found him weeping.

"There really was a wolf here! The flock has scattered! I cried out, 'Wolf!' Why didn't you come?"

"We did not believe you – you have tricked us so many times before." replied the villagers.

An old man tried to comfort the boy as he walked back to the village.

"We'll help you look for the lost sheep in the morning." he said putting his arm round the boy, " You see, nobody believes a liar... even when he is telling the truth!"

The End