



## Three Fables

Choose one of these fables and complete the Ice Cream Inferences page. Remember that fables teach us life lessons. Ask yourself: What is the fable teaching me? How can I apply its lesson to my life? Use your inference skills to come up with an answer.

### The Donkey and the Dog

A donkey and a dog were traveling together when they saw a letter on the ground. The donkey began to read the letter to the dog. It concerned hay, barley, and bran, which the dog was not interested in.

He interrupted the donkey. "Who cares about hay, barley, and bran? Skip a few paragraphs, Donkey. You might find something interesting about meat and bones."

The donkey, who did love hay, barley, and bran, skimmed the letter. "You're right! Here's something about free bones."

The dog whirled in excitement. "Where? Where?"

"Be still, and let me finish reading the letter," the donkey answered. "It says that free bones will be given out at Shipley's Farm on—"

"I know where that is!" the dog said, and he ran down the road.

"Wait!" the donkey cried. "There's more!"

When the panting dog reached the farm, he found out that the bones were to be given out two days later.

### The Lion and the Hare

A lion came upon a sleeping hare at the edge of a field. As he was about to devour the hare, he saw a deer leap by. The lion left the napping hare to chase the deer.

A moment later, the hare awoke and, quicker than a wink, ran away.

The lion continued to chase the deer. No matter how fast he ran, he couldn't catch it. Exhausted, the lion trudged back to the field to look for the hare. He discovered that it had escaped.

"Let this be a lesson," the lion sighed.

### The Boar and the Fox

A boar was standing next to a tree, sharpening his tusks on the trunk. A fox stopped to watch. The boar was working so hard that the tree and nearby shrubs shook.

"Why are you sharpening your tusks?" asked the fox. "There aren't any hunters around."

"The answer is obvious," replied the boar. "If I were attacked, I certainly wouldn't have time to sharpen my tusks. But if I have them ready and sharp, I'll be able to put them to good use!"