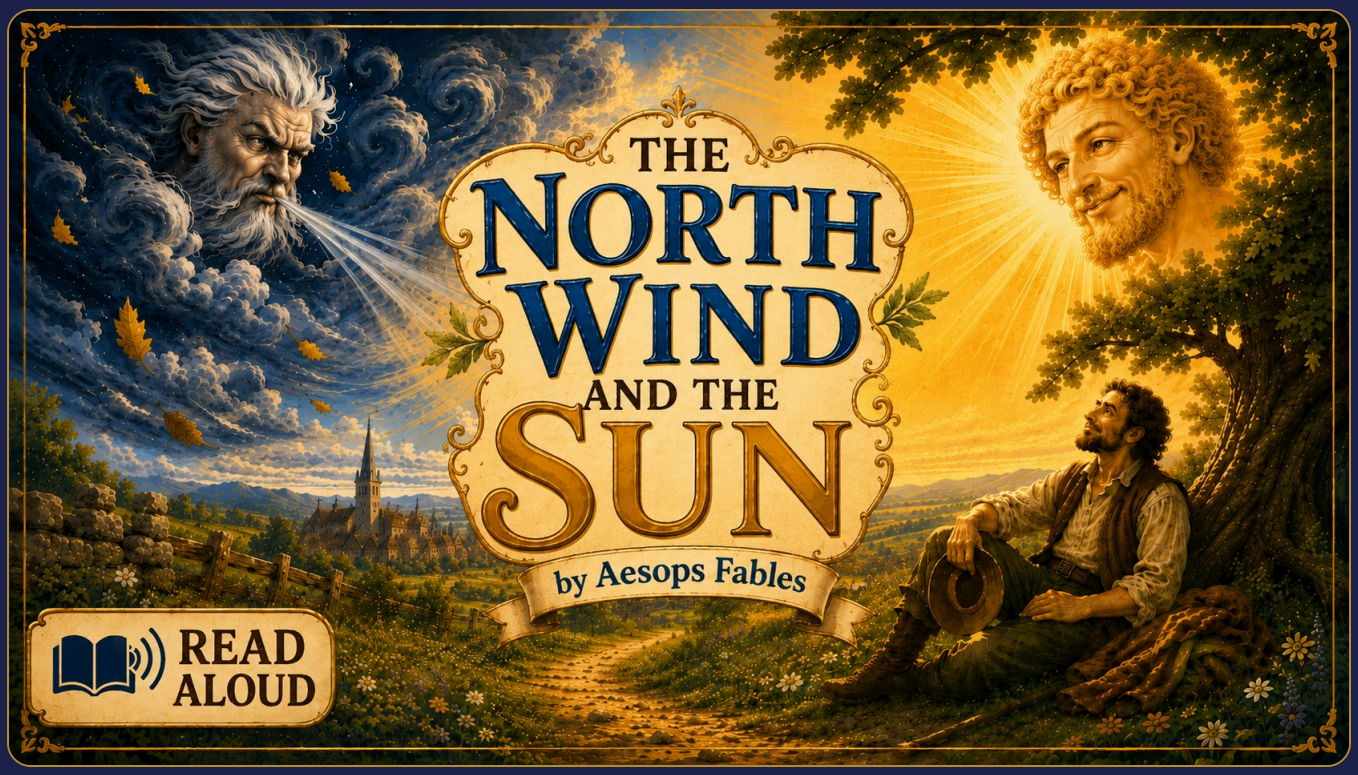
Storyland Classics

FREE STORY GUIDE

An Aesop fable, from The Æsop for Children (1919)



- ✦ Meet the Author
- ✦ The Big Idea & Try It
- ✦ Yes or No & ABC Order
- ✦ Read It With Voices
- ✦ Standards
- ✦ Story Map
- ✦ Word Match & Sort
- ✦ Put It in Order
- ✦ Handwriting
- ✦ Let's Talk
- ✦ Word Search
- ✦ Who Did It? & Feelings
- ✦ Answer Key

Ages 4–8 ✦ Pre-K to Grade 2 ✦ Aligned to Common Core

This cover is for your screen. Print from page 2 to save ink.

FOR GROWN-UPS

How to Use This Guide

This free guide goes with the Storyland Classics read-aloud of "The North Wind and the Sun." Every page is ready to print, and no sign-up is needed. Pick the pages that suit your child or class.

ABOUT THE STORY

The North Wind and the Sun argue about which of them is stronger. They agree on a contest: whoever can make a Traveler take off his cloak wins. The North Wind blows a cold, howling blast, but the harder he blows, the tighter the Traveler holds his cloak. Then the Sun shines gently and grows warmer and warmer, until the Traveler takes off his cloak and rests in the shade of a tree.

SKILL FOCUS

Compare and contrast: how two characters try to solve the same problem in different ways

WATCH AND READ ALONG

Scan the code to watch the read-aloud and read the full story, or visit storylandclassics.com/north-wind-guide. *The Æsop for Children* (1919), illustrated by Milo Winter. Public domain.

A simple routine

1. **Day 1.** Watch the read-aloud together, then fill in the Story Map.
2. **Day 2.** Meet the author, then use Let's Talk and The Big Idea.
3. **Day 3.** Learn the words with the word match, word sort and word search.
4. **Day 4.** Put the story in order, then perform it with voices.

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Standards

Every activity is aligned to the Common Core State Standards for kindergarten to grade 2. Codes appear at the bottom of each page, and the full table is on the last page.

Younger children

Children who aren't writing yet can answer out loud or tell a grown-up what to write.

Name _____ Date _____

MEET THE AUTHOR

Aesop

Ancient Greece, about 2,500 years ago

Aesop is remembered as a storyteller in ancient Greece more than 2,500 years ago. Little is known for sure about his life, and some people think many storytellers' fables were gathered under his name. His fables are short stories, usually about animals that talk and act like people, and each one ends with a lesson called a moral. Our fables come from *The Æsop for Children* (1919), with pictures by Milo Winter.

Questions About the Author

1. Where did Aesop live?

2. What is a fable?

3. What is a moral? Can you think of one you already know?

Name _____ Date _____

STORY MAP

The North Wind and the Sun



Look at the picture from the read-aloud. Who do you see? Then fill in the story map.

Characters

Who is in the story?

Setting

Where and when does it happen?

Problem

What goes wrong?

Solution

How is it fixed? How does it end?

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Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

The North Wind and the Sun

Young children can answer out loud. Older children can write their answers.

REMEMBER

1. What were the North Wind and the Sun arguing about?

2. What did the North Wind do to the Traveler?

3. What did the Traveler do when the Sun shone?

THINK

4. Why did the Traveler hold his cloak tighter when the Wind blew?

5. Who was stronger in the end? Why?

CONNECT

6. When is being gentle better than being bossy or rough?

NARRATION

Close the book and tell the fable back in your own words. How did the Sun win the contest?

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Name _____ Date _____

THE BIG IDEA

What Does the Story Teach?

THE MORAL

"Gentleness and kind persuasion win where force and bluster fail." Being kind and gentle can do more than being rough or loud.

What does this mean to you? Tell or write about a time it was true in your life.

Try It

SKILL FOCUS

Compare and contrast: how two characters try to solve the same problem in different ways

Fold your paper in half. Draw the North Wind blowing on one side and the Sun shining on the other. Draw the Traveler on each side, too.

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Name _____ Date _____

WORDS TO KNOW

Word Match

Draw a line from each word to what it means.

quarrel	a loose coat with no sleeves
stronger	soft and kind
traveler	an argument
cloak	a sudden puff of wind
blast	a person on a trip
gust	a cool spot out of the sun
gentle	having more power
shade	a strong rush of wind

Word Sort: The North Wind or the Sun?

Write each word in the right box.

cold · warm · howling · gentle · blast · beams · blustery · shining

The North Wind

The Sun

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Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

The North Wind and the Sun

Find the words from the story. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

G	T	W	J	J	R	N	B	C	A
G	O	I	F	V	H	E	V	Y	I
R	T	N	P	O	C	L	O	A	K
R	R	D	E	S	S	U	N	D	J
O	E	N	S	U	J	Y	L	I	O
A	E	A	M	N	I	M	F	O	H
D	V	H	U	B	Y	A	G	F	W
W	A	R	M	A	Y	D	J	R	A
B	Y	L	C	O	L	D	R	G	L
C	A	P	N	E	S	F	N	S	N

WORD BANK

- ☐ WIND
- ☐ SUN
- ☐ CLOAK
- ☐ ROAD
- ☐ TREE
- ☐ COLD
- ☐ WARM
- ☐ CAP

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Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about the story. Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The North Wind and the Sun had a quarrel. Yes No
2. The Traveler was wearing a cloak. Yes No
3. The North Wind blew the cloak away. Yes No
4. The Traveler held his cloak tighter in the wind. Yes No
5. The Sun shone gently, then warmer and warmer. Yes No
6. The North Wind won the contest. Yes No

ABC Order

Write these words from the story in ABC order.

wind sun cloak road tree

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

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Name _____ Date _____

PUT IT IN ORDER

What Happens First?

Read each sentence. Write 1 in the circle next to what happens first, 2 next to what happens next, and so on up to 6.

- ◯ The Sun shines gently and warmly.
- ◯ The North Wind and the Sun have a quarrel.
- ◯ The Traveler rests in the shade of a tree.
- ◯ The North Wind blows a cold blast.
- ◯ The Traveler takes off his cloak.
- ◯ The Traveler wraps his cloak tighter.

Retell the Story

Use the order words to tell the story in your own words. Say it out loud, or write it.

First, _____

Next, _____

Then, _____

Last, _____

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Name _____ Date _____

CHARACTERS

Who Did It?

Read each sentence. Write who did it. Use the name bank to help.

the North Wind | the Sun | the Traveler

said, “Let us agree that he is the stronger who can strip that Traveler of his cloak.” _____

growled, “Very well,” and sent a cold, howling blast _____

wrapped his cloak closely around him _____

grew warmer and warmer _____

rested in the shade of a tree _____

How Did the Traveler Feel?

Write a feeling word for each part of the story. Use the word bank, or choose your own.

cold | chilly | cozy | warm | hot | tired | comfortable

When…	the Traveler felt…
he walked along the road	
the North Wind blew	
the Wind blew harder	
the Sun began to shine	
the Sun grew warmer	
he lay in the shade	

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Name _____ Date _____

PERFORM IT

Read It With Voices

Three readers take the parts. Blow like the wind and spread your arms like sunbeams!

NARRATOR	The North Wind and the Sun had a quarrel about which of them was the stronger.
SUN	“Let us agree that he is the stronger who can strip that Traveler of his cloak.”
NORTH WIND	“Very well!” (Whoooosh!)
NARRATOR	But the harder the Wind blew, the tighter the Traveler held his cloak.
NARRATOR	Then the Sun began to shine, warmer and warmer, until the Traveler pulled off his cloak.
EVERYONE	“Gentleness and kind persuasion win where force and bluster fail!”

My Favorite Part

My favorite part is _____

_____

because _____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

The North Wind and the Sun

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

Gentle is strong.

Gentle is strong.

Gentle is strong.

The Sun began to shine.

The Sun began to shine.

The Sun began to shine.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

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FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key & Ideas

Story Map

Characters: the North Wind, the Sun, the Traveler. Setting: a road through the countryside. Problem: the North Wind and the Sun argue about who is stronger. Solution: they hold a contest, and the gentle Sun wins by making the Traveler take off his cloak.

Let's Talk

1. Which of them was the stronger. 2. Blew a cold, howling blast at him. 3. He unfastened his cloak, then took it off and rested in the shade. 4–6. Answers will vary (the Sun won by being gentle).

Word Search

G	T	W	J	J	R	N	B	C	A
G	O	I	F	V	H	E	V	Y	I
R	T	N	P	O	C	L	O	A	K
R	R	D	E	S	S	U	N	D	J
O	E	N	S	U	J	Y	L	I	O
A	E	A	M	N	I	M	F	O	H
D	V	H	U	B	Y	A	G	F	W
W	A	R	M	A	Y	D	J	R	A
B	Y	L	C	O	L	D	R	G	L
C	A	P	N	E	S	F	N	S	N

Word Match & Sort

quarrel: an argument · stronger: having more power · traveler: a person on a trip · cloak: a loose coat with no sleeves · blast: a strong rush of wind · gust: a sudden puff of wind · gentle: soft and kind · shade: a cool spot out of the sun. Sort: The North Wind: cold, howling, blast, blustery. The Sun: warm, gentle, beams, shining.

Yes or No? & ABC Order

1. Yes · 2. Yes · 3. No · 4. Yes · 5. Yes · 6. No. ABC order: cloak, road, sun, tree, wind.

Put It in Order

the quarrel → the North Wind blows a cold blast → the Traveler wraps his cloak tighter → the Sun shines gently and warmly → he takes off his cloak → he rests in the shade.

Who Did It?

1. the Sun · 2. the North Wind · 3. the Traveler · 4. the Sun · 5. the Traveler

Ideas to extend the lesson

- Try it: put on a jacket and stand by a fan, then in the sun. Which makes you take it off?
- Make a weather chart for a week: windy, sunny or both?
- Read it with The Lion and the Mouse and talk about different kinds of strength.

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FOR TEACHERS

Standards Alignment

The North Wind and the Sun ✦ Common Core State Standards, kindergarten to grade 2

STANDARDS	WHAT CHILDREN PRACTICE	WHERE IN THIS GUIDE
RL.K.1 RL.1.1 RL.2.1	Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	Let's Talk and Yes or No?; Let's Talk
RL.K.2 RL.1.2 RL.2.2	Retell stories and poems, including key details, and show understanding of their message.	Put It in Order and Retell; Put It in Order and Retell; The Big Idea; The Big Idea
RL.K.3 RL.1.3 RL.2.3	Identify and describe characters, settings and major events.	Story Map and Character Feelings; Character Feelings
RL.K.4	Understand words and phrases, including rhyme, rhythm and words that appeal to the senses.	Word Match
RL.K.6 RL.1.6 RL.2.6	Identify who is speaking and use a different voice for each character when reading aloud.	Meet the Author; Who Said It?; Read It With Voices
RL.K.7 RL.1.7	Use illustrations and words together to describe characters, setting and events.	Story Map picture
RL.K.10 RL.1.10	Engage in group reading of poems and stories with purpose and understanding.	Reading the story together
RF.K.1b RF.K.1d	Understand the organization of print (left to right, top to bottom).	Word Search; ABC Order
RF.K.3c RF.1.3	Read common high-frequency words by sight.	Word Search
RF.1.4b RF.2.4b	Read aloud with accuracy, appropriate rate and expression.	Read It With Voices
SL.K.1 SL.1.1	Take part in conversations about the text with classmates and adults.	Let's Talk (discussion)
SL.K.2	Ask and answer questions about a text read aloud or presented through media.	Read-aloud video (QR code)
SL.K.5	Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.	Try It (drawing to add detail)
SL.K.6	Speak audibly and express ideas clearly.	Read It With Voices
L.K.1a L.1.1 L.1.1a	Print upper- and lowercase letters and use common position words.	Handwriting Practice; ABC Order
L.K.2a	Use capital letters and end punctuation.	Handwriting checklist
L.K.4 L.1.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words and phrases.	Word Match
L.K.5a	Sort words into categories, connect words to real life and act out shades of meaning.	Word Sort
W.K.1 W.1.1	Use drawing and writing to share an opinion and give a reason.	My Favorite Part
W.K.2	Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose informative texts.	Try It
W.1.8	With guidance and support, recall information from experiences or gather information to answer a question.	Try It

Codes are Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. Find free read-alouds and guides at storylandclassics.com.

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