

Class (401) Name _____ Number _____

THE TIGER AND THE JACKAL

Characters:

NARRATOR 1, 2, 3
TIGER, MONKEY, RABBIT, CHEETAH,
BOY, COW, ELEPHANT, JACKAL
CHORUS

ALL: Good afternoon! We are Class 401. The story we are going to read is an Indian folktale, The Tiger and the Jackal. Hope you'll like it.

NARRATOR 1: Once upon a time, there was a tiger who was caught in a trap.

TIGER: Growl! Growl! Let me out! Let me out! GROWL!

NARRATOR 2: A monkey jumped up and down in a tree nearby the trap.

TIGER: Oh great! A monkey! He can help me! GROWL!

MONKEY: What is it? Oh no, a fierce tiger! I'd better swing away!

TIGER: Hey Monkey!

MONKEY: Uh?

TIGER: You see I am trapped in this cage. Come down here and open the door for me!

MONKEY: I'm sorry but my legs are broken. I can't climb off the tree.

NARRATOR 3: The monkey swung away quickly. The tiger was very angry.

TIGER: You liar! GROWL! GROWL!

NARRATOR 1: Then a rabbit hopped by.

RABBIT: Oh, it's the tiger! I'd better hop away. Or, she might eat me in a minute!

TIGER: Hey Rabbit!

RABBIT: Who? Me?

TIGER: Yes, you! Get closer! Open this door!

RABBIT: I'm terribly sorry, Tiger, but my hands are too short to open it.

NARRATOR 2: The rabbit hopped away immediately without looking back.

TIGER: Wait! Growl! Growl!

NARRATOR 3: Before long, a cheetah came by searching for the rabbit.

CHEETAH: Oh Rabbit, where are you?

TIGER: Cheetah!

CHEETAH: Who's there?

TIGER: It's me, Tiger! I am stuck in this cage. Please let me out!

CHEETAH: Huh! Who cares? I have a rabbit to chase! Oh, there it is! Come on, Rabbit!

NARRATOR 1: The cheetah ran after the rabbit and soon was gone.

NARRATOR 2: The tiger was sad because no one helped her.

CHORUS: Tiger! Tiger! Stuck in a trap! She has no way out.

NARRATOR 3: The tiger waited and waited hoping someone passed by.

NARRATOR 1: Then, a boy came running along the road.

BOY: Hop! Skip! Jump!

TIGER: Help! Help! Please let me out!

BOY: Oh, my goodness! A fierce tiger!

TIGER: Boy! Help me, please! Free me from this cage!

BOY: I cannot let you out, Tiger. If I do, you will eat me!

TIGER: Eat you? Never! I promise I won't eat you. Let me out, please!

BOY: Well, if you promise then I'll set you free.

NARRATOR 2: The boy opened the trap door.

BOY: Come on out, poor Tiger!

TIGER: Growl! I am FREE! Now I am starving! I must eat you
for my dinner! Growl!

NARRATOR 3: The tiger pounced on the boy as soon as she was
out of the cage.

BOY: That's not fair! You promised!

TIGER: Ho, ho! But I'm a tiger and tigers don't keep promises!
GROWL!

CHORUS: (Song)

I am behind you, I'll always find you, I am the tiger
People who fear me never go near me, I am the tiger
And if I meet you, what if I eat you, I am the tiger
I am behind you, I'll always find you, I am the tiger
Tiger, tiger!

NARRATOR 1: The tiger opened her mouth wide, wide, WIDE!

CHORUS: That's not fair! That's not fair! She promised!

COW: Moo! Moo! Moo!

NARRATOR 2: Just then, a cow came trudging down the road.

COW: Oh no! A tiger is having her dinner. I'd better keep going.

BOY: Gracious Cow! Please listen to me!

COW: I... I don't have time now.

BOY: Please! I let the tiger out of the trap, and now she wants
to eat me for her dinner. She promised that she wouldn't.
So, it's not fair, is it?

COW: I... I don't think it's... not fair. Sorry.

NARRATOR 3: The cow said no more and trudded on.

TIGER: See? Ha! Ha! And now I must eat you for my dinner!
GROWL!

CHORUS: No! No! Don't eat the boy!

Help! Help! Someone help him!

ELEPHANT: Thump! Thump! Thump!

NARRATOR 1: Down the road trundled an elephant.

ELEPHANT: Uh-oh! The tiger is having her dinner. I'd better go away. Or, I may get into trouble.

BOY: Noble Elephant! I freed the tiger from the cage. Now she wants to eat me for her dinner. It's not fair, is it?

ELEPHANT: (Clear his throat) Fair, or not fair, that is the question! I don't see... it's not fair.

NARRATOR 2: The elephant said no more and trundled on.

TIGER: See? HA! HA! HA! I must eat you now! GROWL!

CHORUS: No! No! Don't eat the boy!
Help! Help! Someone help him!

JACKAL: Pitter patter! Pitter patter! Pitter patter!

NARRATOR 3: Down the road pattered a jackal.

JACKAL: Oh no! The boy is in danger!

BOY: Jackal! I let the tiger out of the trap. Now she wants to eat me. She promised that she wouldn't. So, it's not fair, is it?

JACKAL: What? What did you let the tiger out of?

BOY: A trap.

JACKAL: I didn't quite hear you. Say it again.

BOY: A trap!

JACKAL: Dear me. I'm not hearing very well today. What did you say?

TIGER: A trap! I was in a TRAP!

JACKAL: But I still don't understand.

TIGER: GROWL! You foolish animal! Look! This is the trap!

JACKAL: Oh, and where were you?

TIGER: Here!

NARRATOR 1: Suddenly, the tiger jumped into the trap.

TIGER: Look! Look! LOOK!

JACKAL: Aha! Now I see.

NARRATOR 2: The jackal quickly shut the door.

JACKAL: I think, Mr. Tiger, we will leave you there a little longer,
just until you learn to keep your promises!

NARRATOR 3: The jackal and the boy ran away together and
never came back.

CHORUS: Hop! Skip! Jump!
Pitter patter! Pitter patter! Pitter patter!

ALL: (Bow) Thank you.