AESOP'S FABLES

THE LION AND THE MOUSE
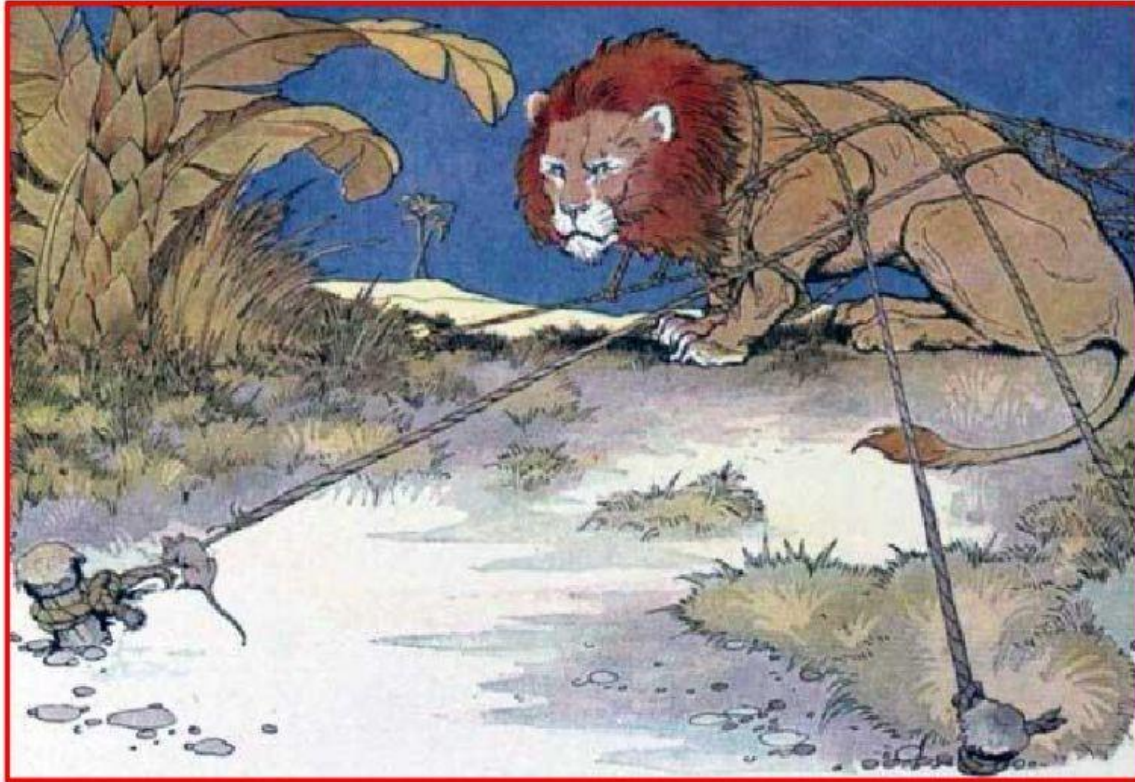
Powerful: strong

tickled

paw

Begged: asked

Repay: pay back; give back

A **powerful** lion was sleeping in the forest. A small mouse was in the forest too. The mouse saw the lion. She was scared by the big lion. She tried to run away, but her little tail **tickled** his face. He woke up and caught her in his giant **paw**.

"Please don't eat me!" **begged** the poor Mouse. "Please let me go and some day I will **repay** you."

The lion laughed. How could a tiny mouse ever help him? But he was kind, and finally he let the Mouse go.

net

ropes

roared

Escape: to free yourself

trap

Many days later, while he was in the forest looking for animals to eat, the lion was caught in a hunter's **net**. He used his muscles and teeth to try to get free, but the **ropes** were too strong. He **roared** with anger. He couldn't **escape** the **trap**.

The mouse knew the voice of the lion. She followed his roars, and found the lion trapped in the net. She ran to one of the ropes that was tied on him. The mouse chewed on the ropes until they broke, one by one. Soon, the lion was free.

"You laughed when I said I would repay you," said the mouse. "Now you see that even a mouse can help a lion."

A kindness is never wasted.

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Who are the CHARACTERS in this story?

What word describes the mouse?

Where does the story happen?

What word describes the lion?

What is the lesson in this story?

What happens first, second, third, and so on? Put the EVENTS in the correct order.

The strong lion cannot escape the net.

A little mouse sees a lion in the forest.

The lion is caught in a hunter's trap.

The mouse has repaid the lion's kindness.

The mouse bites the ropes and sets the lion free.

The lion catches the mouse.

The lion sets the mouse free.

The mouse begs the lion not to eat her.

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2

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Now, write the 8 sentences above in the correct order to make a PARAGRAPH!