

The Fox and the Grapes

Fable by Aesop

A fox one day spied a beautiful bunch of **ripe** grapes hanging from a vine trained along the branches of a tree. The grapes seemed ready to burst with juice, and the Fox's mouth watered as he **gazed** longingly at them.

The bunch hung from a high branch, and the Fox had to jump for it. The first time he jumped he missed it by a long way. So he walked off a short distance and took a running leap at it, only to fall short once more. Again and again he tried, but in **vain**.

Now he sat down and looked at the grapes in disgust.

"What a fool I am," he said. "Here I am wearing myself out to get a bunch of sour grapes that are not worth **gaping** for." And off he walked very, very **scornfully**.



STUDENT NAME: _____

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Read the story and answer the questions:

Who is the story about?

Where does the story take place?

What happened?

First: _____

Second: _____

Finally: _____



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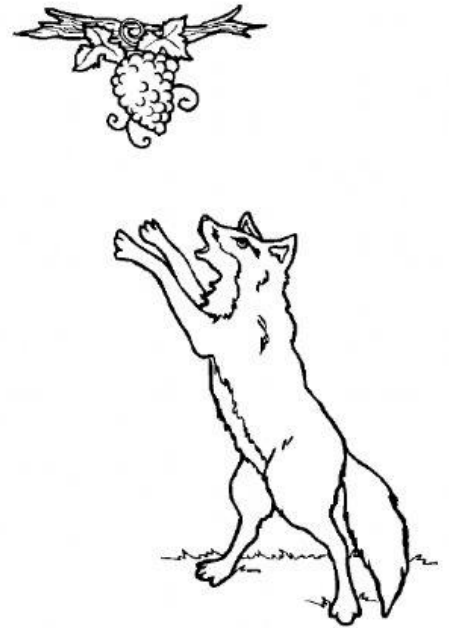
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- 1) GO BACK TO THE STORY ON PAGE 2
- 2) **FIND AND UNDERLINE** the sentence that teaches **the lesson or moral of the story**.

Remember: the moral or lesson of a story is what the story can teach us.

- 3) What did story **The Fox and the Grapes** teach us?

AM Production



STUDENT NAME: _____

Critical thinking: Do you think the fox did the right thing by giving up?

Write Fox a letter. Let him know if you agree or disagree with his decision and WHY.
Would you handle his problem differently?

Date: __/__/_____

Dear Fox,

Sincerely,

The Fox and the Grapes

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. **ripe**= fully grown or developed

2. **gazed**= look with fixed eyes with curiosity, interest or wonder

3. **vain**= not effective; not successful

4. **gaping**= to stare with open mouth, as in wonder

5. **scornfully**=full of anger

