

AESOP'S FABLES

Aesop was an ancient Greek storyteller, whose Fables have been passed on over centuries each containing a moral to teach children until today how to learn from lessons that mice and men made before

The Townmouse and the Countrymouse is one of his most famous writings

**THE DANAI
LIBRARY EDITION**

AESOP'S THE TOWNMOUSE AND THE COUNTRYMOUSE



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AND THE
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THE TOWNMOUSE AND THE COUNTRYMOUSE

Once upon a time, a town mouse took a trip to the countryside, where he met a country mouse. The country mouse invited the town mouse to his humble home for dinner.

They sat down to eat a dinner of fresh peas and corn. The town mouse tried to be polite, but the country mouse realised that he didn't like the country food. "I've tried it, but this food is boring!" the town mouse said. "You should come and sample the delicious food in town."

"OK then, I will," replied the country mouse. They set off excitedly for the town, scurrying quickly as they could.

Soon, they arrived at the town mouse's house and headed straight for the cupboard. Inside, there were jars of jam, chutney, rice, pasta and much more. The country mouse was amazed at what they had found.



All of a sudden, the kitchen door swung open and the cook walked in. Terrified, the mice jumped out of the cupboard and raced across to the mouse hole.

Eventually, when the coast was clear, the mice ventured out to find more food. This time they went to the pantry and found a jar of prunes to eat. "I've never eaten anything like it!" exclaimed the country mouse.

"Thank you, town mouse." The country mouse was munching through the prunes when the town mouse suddenly whispered "Quiet!" The cat had crept into the kitchen. The mice tiptoed back to the hole. They went to the cellar. There was even more food. There was cheese, meat, bags of fruit and even more!

The country mouse saw a tasty-looking piece of cheese in the corner. He ran towards it and was about to eat it.

"Stop!" yelled the town mouse. "It's a mousetrap!"

With that, the country mouse grabbed his things and went on his way. "I think it's time for me to go," he explained. "There are too many shocks here! I'd rather eat my boring food in peace than eat delicious food whilst surrounded by danger!"

*It is better to have a little and
live in peace than
have a lot and live in fear.*

