

【國小朗讀組】

1. Cat and Mouse Go Boating (貓和老鼠划船)

Once upon a time, Cat and Mouse were great friends. They lived in the rainforest together and were perfectly happy. Cat mainly ate small birds. Mouse mostly enjoyed a kind of sweet potato called taro. One day, Cat became restless.

“Mouse,” said Cat, “I think we should leave the forest and find a village to live in. There will be lots of houses there. We'll find plenty of food. Our lives will be much easier.”

“But,” said Mouse, “we live on an island. There are no villages. How are we going to reach the mainland?”

“We could hollow out a boat from a big taro. What do you think of that?” said Cat.

“I think I'd enjoy making that boat!” laughed Mouse. And so he did.

A week later, Cat and Mouse began their sail.

Their boat was heavy to paddle. Before long, Cat and Mouse were very tired. They were very far from land. Of course, they were getting hungry, too.

One night, while Cat was sleeping, Mouse started to nibble the taro boat. Just a little nibble couldn't hurt. But one little nibble turned into a lot of big nibbles, and before Mouse knew it, the boat began to leak. At once, Cat woke up.

“Mouse, I know what you did. When we reach land, I'm going to eat you!” he cried.

Mouse and Cat were thrown into the sea and had to swim to land.

Once on shore, Cat looked hungrily at Mouse, but Mouse told him to wait. “I'm very dirty and salty,” he said. “Let me just give myself a wash before you eat me. Here's a little hole where I can do it.”

Mouse disappeared ... and did not reappear. He dug a little tunnel and escaped.

So, you can understand why Cat and Mouse are no longer such great friends!