

FABLES

A **FABLE** IS A VERY SHORT STORY DEMONSTRATING A USEFUL TRUTH, ESPECIALLY IN WHICH ANIMALS SPEAK AS HUMANS.



CHARACTERISTICS OF FABLES

- Fables are legendary.
- Fables are supernatural tales.
- Morals or lessons are revealed and stated at the end.
- Characters often have generic names such as *Dog*, *Rooster*, *Boy*.

What is a moral?

A moral is the lesson about right and wrong learned from a story or event. The **moral** of the story is ...

Common Morals:

- ◆ Keep your promises
- ◆ Do not cheat
- ◆ Treat others as you want to be treated
- ◆ Be trustworthy
- ◆ Do not judge
- ◆ Appearances often are deceiving.
- ◆ There is no believing a liar, even when he speaks the truth.

Aesop's Fables:

Aesop, a Greek Slave 2,500 years ago, told a collection of 725 fables, all teaching some kind of moral or lesson. These stories were never originally wrote down but were told from person-to-person for entertainment purposes and also as a means for relaying or teaching a moral or lesson. These early stories are often portraying animals or insects e.g. foxes, grasshoppers, frogs, cats, dogs, ants, crabs, stags, and monkeys representing humans engaged in human-like situations.

About 2,000 years later, a monk wrote down these wonderful tales of talking animals and little morals. They have been know as "Aesop's Fables" ever since.

