**What to do today**

*IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.*

**1. Read a poem and think about the story.**

* Read *How Tortoise Got His Shell*.
* What did you like about the poem? What patterns did you notice?
* Why was Zeus so angry with Tortoise? How did Zeus punish Tortoise? Do you think this was fair?

Find a grown-up and read them the poem. Can you help them to understand the story by the way that you read the poem?

**2. Imagine a conversation**

* Try writing a conversation between Zeus and the Tortoise in the *Speech Bubbles***.**
* Now use the *Revision Card* to remind yourself about direct speech. Can you turn some of your Speech Bubble writing into sentences with direct speech? (add speech marks and reporting clauses)

**3. Now for some writing**

* Make a *Story Plan* for the story of how tortoise got his shell.
* Read your plan through and then try writing your story. Include some of your direct speech if you can.

**Try the Fun-Time Extras**

* Can you make an illustration of the story? You could even make a comic strip version.
* Can you perform the poem and film it to share with someone else?
* Can you perform your speech bubbles with someone else. Who will be Zeus and who will be the Tortoise? How will you show their different characters?

**How the Tortoise Got His Shell**

*Come to my feast!*

cried the great god Zeus.

*Today I shall be wed!*

And from each corner of the earth

all Zeus’s creatures sped…



The fliers and the creepers,

The long, the short, the tall;

The crawlers and the leapers,

The feathered, furred and bald;

Hunters, biters, finders, fighters,

Hooters, whistlers, roarers;

Squeakers, screamers, squawkers, dreamers,

Nibblers, gulpers, borers.

Paws and claws from hills and shores

From south, from north, from west and east,

From mountain tops and forest floors

*all* Zeus’s creatures joined the feast

except

 *the tortoise*

They raved, they pranced, they feasted, danced;

six days and nights each creature stayed

to chatter, flatter, clap and cheer

at the great god Zeus’s grand parade

except

 *the tortoise*

Next day…

*Why weren’t you there, my friend,* asked Zeus,

*the day that I was wed?*

The tortoise smiled her small, slow smile

and raised her small, slow head.



*A wedding feast is fun, I guess,*

*But I’m a simple one.*

*I’m happy by myself, she said.*

*There’s no place quite like home!*

*How dare you stay away! roared Zeus.*

*I’ll show you just what for!*

*From this day on you’ll carry your home*

*On your back, for evermore!*

*Judith Nicholls (The Works p57)*

*Unit 1 Day 3*

**Revision Card – Direct Speech**

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**Speech Bubbles**

**Zeus Tortoise**

**Story Plan**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How will you introduce your story? |  |
| What will be the first event? |  |
| What will happen next? |  |
| What will be your final event? |  |
| How will you round off your story? |  |

**Zeus and the Tortoise**

*Write your story here.*

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