

## Trust Me, I am a Rabbit





One day, a brown rabbit went out for a walk. He saw a monkey along the way. 'Who are you?' the monkey asked. 'I am a rabbit. I am going for a walk.'



The monkey laughed when he heard the rabbit's answer. 'I think you are a monkey because you are brown like me. You don't look like a rabbit.'



The rabbit was confused but he kept walking. Soon, he saw a squirrel. The squirrel said, 'Let's climb the tree and play together.' The rabbit replied, 'Rabbits like me don't climb trees.'



'But you are brown like a squirrel,' said the squirrel with a laugh. The rabbit got more confused and continued his walk.



This time, the rabbit met a mouse. The mouse didn't believe the rabbit was a rabbit, either! 'Look at me. Look at my ears and legs,' said the rabbit.



'I don't believe you. You are brown, so you are a mouse. I don't want to talk with a liar,' said the mouse. The rabbit wept with sadness and confusion. Was he really still a rabbit?



Near the end of the trail, the rabbit saw an old porcupine. The porcupine was so old that he could only walk with a cane.



The porcupine stopped to rest under the tree. The rabbit approached and said, 'Uncle Porcupine, you are as slow as a tortoise.' The porcupine replied, 'Yes, rabbit, I am old and I am getting slow.'



The rabbit was surprised! 'Wow, you know I am a rabbit?' 'Yes, I know. I am slow but I am still a porcupine. You are brown but you are still a rabbit,' said the porcupine.



The rabbit was very happy now and continued his walk full of confidence that he was still a rabbit.



Questions: 1. Why did the monkey, squirrel and mouse laugh at the rabbit? 2. Why did the rabbit feel sad? 3. What did the porcupine say? 4. Talk about the rabbits that you have seen.



The Third Story Project, a collaborative effort between the Myanmar Storytellers and the Benevolent Youth Association (Yangon), creates and produces children's books in Burmese and other Myanmar languages to distribute free of charge to children around Myanmar. The stories are written and illustrated by Myanmar artists for a Myanmar audience and



address issues of peace, tolerance, diversity, gender, environment and child rights.

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