

Life Principle: CURIOSITY

The Turtle and The Ducks

The Tortoise carries his house on his back and has short legs that hardly drag him along. He can never leave his home. He decided that he wanted to see the world, but there he was with a house on his back.

One day he met a pair of Ducks and told them all his trouble. "We can help you to see the world," said the Ducks. "Take hold of this stick with your teeth and we will carry you far up in the air where you can see the whole countryside. But keep quiet or you will be sorry."

The Tortoise was very happy indeed and seized the stick firmly with his teeth. The two Ducks took hold of it one at each end, and away they flew up into the sky. Just then a Crow flew by. He was very much astonished at the strange sight and cried: "This must surely be the King of Tortoises!"

"Why certainly——" began the Tortoise. But as he opened his mouth to say these foolish words he lost his hold on the stick, and down he fell to the ground, where he was dashed to pieces on a rock.

[The Turtle and the Ducks](#) [The Turtle That Fell Off the Stick - A Tale of Panchatantra](#)

[Two Ducks and a Turtle poem](#)

[Why the Turtle Has a Cracked Shell - Native American Story](#)

[The Ducks and Turtle Venn Diagram](#) - compare the different versions

[Choice Turtle Curiosity Worksheet](#)

[Choice Life Principle Worksheet](#)

Step 1: Question Focus: "Curiosity"

[Question Formulation Technique](#)

-- A Cooperative Learning Strategy

Step 2: Produce Questions.

Rules for producing questions:

1. Ask as many questions as you can.
2. Change any statements into questions.
3. Write down every question exactly as stated.
4. Do not stop to discuss, judge, or answer the questions.

Step 3: Improve the Questions.

- 1) Identify open and closed-ended questions.
- 2) Change questions: select one question to change from open to closed-ended and one closed question to open-ended.

Example: *Closed to open*

How did the story end?

How might the story be different if the turtle had considered the consequences of his curiosity?

[The Power of Effective Questioning](#) 5:35 min

