

# HARE & TORTOISE

Insight and Resource Pack



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This pack is designed for both children and adults.

The interviews with the creative team have been written with children in mind but hopefully will also provide some interesting insight for adults (and not just teachers!). I hope the activities give ideas to teachers and also parents/carers on rainy days during the Christmas holidays.

\*This article has been written by Emily Driver from the University of Nottingham. Emily is studying children's theatre as part of her third year BA (Hons) in English literature and is writing a dissertation on Nottingham Playhouse's HARE AND TORTOISE.

## Cast and Creative team

Hare	Adam Horvath
Tortoise	Elizabeth Eves
Writer	Brendan Murray
Director	Allie Spencer
Designer	Sarah Lewis
Composer/Sound Designer	Adam McCready
Movement Director	Amanda Hall
Production Manager	Jill Robertshaw
Lighting Designer	Stephanie Bartle
Stage Manager	Louise Pearson
Assistant Director	Fatosh Olgacher

Insight and Resource pack written by Allie Spencer, Nathan Powell and Emily Driver. Rehearsal photography by Robert Day.



## **A Starry night**

Do you ever stop to look at the stars?

This is the question that has challenged me since the beginning of this process. As I rushed home from a late night rehearsal with the Playhouse Ensemble (our brilliant Community theatre company) I got out of the car and suddenly stopped as my attention was drawn to the sky. It was a clear night and the sky was full of stars. It was as if everything around me stopped as I stared into the sky, unable to count the hundreds of stars glistening above me – it was magical. Tortoise asks Hare what the stars look like in winter and Hare has never noticed as he is always too busy rushing around. It was at that point I realised how like Hare I was, so busy rushing around that I miss small moments of magic like the stars glistening, or birds singing, or a beautiful sunset.

There's something for everyone in this play, whether you are a hare or a tortoise, even if you are a grownup!

For the Hares:

When did YOU last take time to stop and look at the stars? Or to read a book? Or even to rediscover an old musical instrument hidden in the loft, or behind a pile of books? HARE AND TORTOISE challenges us to stop and breathe, and enjoy life – without always rushing from job to job.

And for the Tortoises:

I'm not an athlete, I'm certainly not a runner! At primary school I was the third slowest runner in the class and the third to last to be picked in a sports team. But when I moved to secondary school I got introduced to "Cross country" and suddenly I was in third place, instead of third to last! I plodded round the school field, at my own pace, overtaking the sprinters who had got bored, or tired too quickly!

Too much emphasis can be placed on being quick at things. When it comes to work, understanding things, or sporting activities I've always been slower than others – I've been a "plodder" - but usually in the end I've got there! I think it's important to stick at things and this is what Tortoise does.

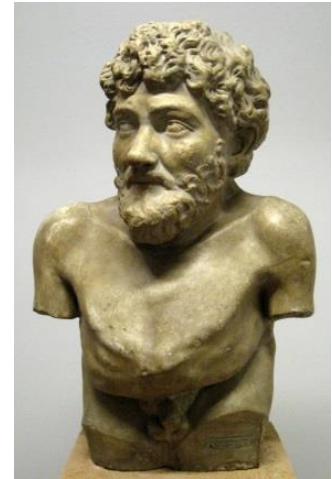
Enjoy this pack – and the show, and next time you are out on a clear night, take some time and look at the stars!

**Allie Spencer. Director of HARE AND TORTOISE. December 2015.**

## Aesop's Fables - The Hare and Tortoise Written By Emily Driver

The Hare and the Tortoise is based on a fable written by a man called Aesop who lived in Greece in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century BC.

According to tradition, Aesop was a slave who worked at the court of King Croesus in Athens, Greece where he would tell King Croesus his stories.



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aesop>

During ancient times, Greece was one of the most important places in the world where many talented people lived and worked as writers, actors, politicians, artists and warriors. Athens was very important as many of the great temples were there, the largest being the Parthenon where the Greeks could go to worship their gods and goddesses.



<http://www.visitgreece.gr/en/culture/monuments/parthenon>

The Gods and Goddesses, who lived in the clouds above Mount Olympus, were very important to the Greeks and the people would build the temples and tell stories to show their commitment to the Gods, for example a lot of the most famous stories were about Zeus' son, Hercules. These stories, as well as Aesop's Fables, were very popular in Ancient Greece.

A fable is a story which has an important message or moral in it, for example in the Hare and Tortoise the message is '*slow and steady wins the race*'. The fables nearly always involve animals who speak, act and think like humans do and the fables are short and direct so the main message is clear and the fables can be retold and shared. This is how so many of them have survived to this present day.

<http://christiewrightwild.blogspot.co.uk/2014/03/writers-who-run-tortoise-and-hare.html>



Aesop's fables were first written down in Greek between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Centuries BC so they have been around for a very long time but they weren't published in English until 1484 by a man called William Caxton.<sup>1</sup> There are believed to be hundreds of fables written by Aesop.

Here is an example of a famous Aesop fable called '*The Dog and his Reflection*':



<http://americanliterature.com/author/aesop/short-story/the-dog-and-his-reflection>

*A dog, to whom the butcher had thrown a bone, was hurrying home with his prize as fast as he could go. As he crossed a narrow footbridge, he happened to look down and saw himself reflected in the quiet water as if in a mirror. But the greedy dog thought he saw a real dog carrying a bone much bigger than his own.*

*If he had stopped to think he would have known better. But instead of thinking, he dropped his bone and sprang at the dog in*

*the river, only to find himself swimming for dear life to reach the shore. At last he managed to scramble out, and as he stood sadly thinking about the good bone he had lost, he realized what a stupid dog he had been.*

*Moral Lesson: "It is very foolish to be greedy."<sup>2</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> Sources:

<http://www.taleswithmorals.com/>  
<http://www.ancient.eu/article/664/>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zgt7mp3>  
<https://www.umass.edu/aesop/index.php>

<sup>2</sup> <http://americanliterature.com/author/aesop/short-story/the-dog-and-his-reflection>

## **MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM**

### **Brendan Murray is the WRITER**

#### **What's the best thing about being a writer?**

When I'm still at home writing by myself, it's when a story starts to work out and the characters find their voices. But it's also great when the show goes into rehearsal and you see the actors, designer, lighting designer, composer, choreographer, and director start to bring the story you've imagined to life!

#### **How many plays have you written?**

Oh, I'm not sure. Thirty? Maybe more. But I've been writing for a long time – over thirty years!

#### **Is it hard to write a play for children?**

Mm... Sometimes, because I want to write plays that my audience will like and understand (and it's a long while since I was young!) but that still express something that concerns me as a grown-up.

#### **Did you have special training to be a writer?**

No. I trained and worked as an actor to begin with (then started to direct) so anything I know about writing comes from doing plays and learning what works or not from the point of view of a performer or director.

#### **What do you like most about Aesop's story of Hare and Tortoise?**

The characters I think: how they can be so different but still friends.

#### **Was it difficult turning a well known fable into a play?**

Yes! I wanted to write a play - a story - that people would recognise but that would still take them by surprise sometimes: something that would honour the original story but also allow people to hear my "voice" as a writer.

#### **Which scene did you enjoy writing most?**

I think the scene at the end – just before Tortoise goes back to sleep.

#### **Are you a Hare or a Tortoise?**

These days I'm a Tortoise. (But I used to be a Hare!)



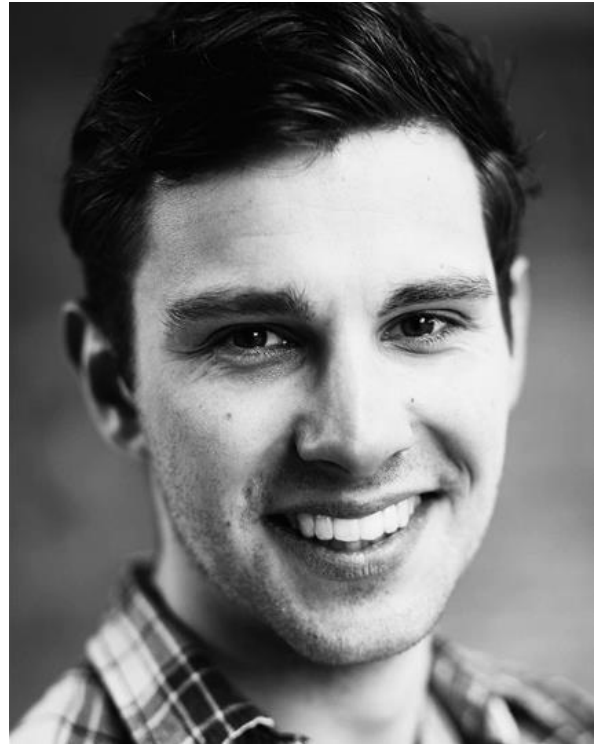
## **Adam Horvath plays HARE**

**What other acting jobs have you done?**

Eighteen months ago I toured with Nottingham Playhouse in *The Second Minute* as part of NEAT13. I've just finished doing a play called *Brassed Off* which is about a group of miners who are in a brass band.

**How long have you been acting?**

I started when I was fourteen doing a drama club at school but I've been acting for a job for about five years.



**Did you have to have special training to be an actor?**

A lot of actors go and train at Drama Schools, which are like universities, but I got *A Fellowship* with a theatre, which is a bit like an apprenticeship.

**What has been your favourite part/character so far?**

A character called Andy who is a character in *Brassed Off*. He's a bit awkward and funny, which was fun to play.

**What is the best thing about being an actor?**

I get to do what I love and be paid for it!

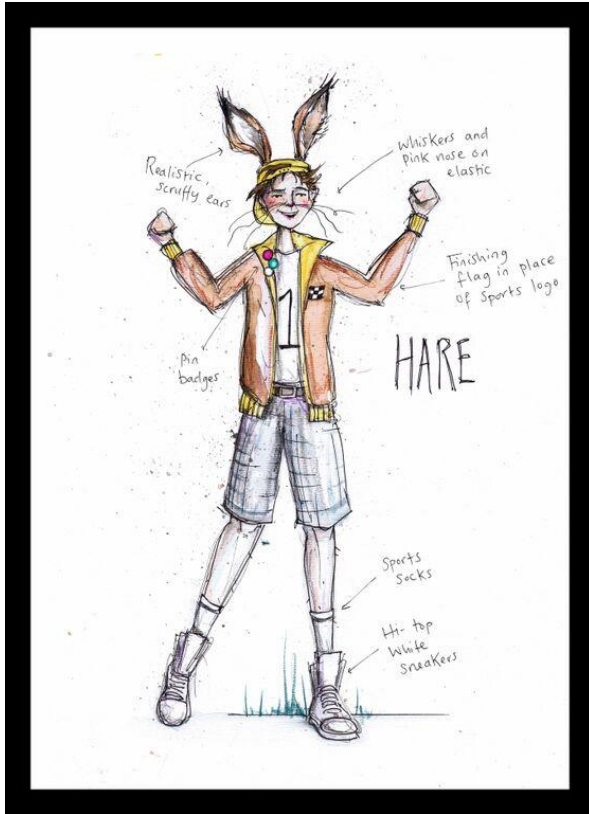
**What is the hardest thing about being an actor?**

In between acting jobs, there can sometimes be a lot of time before another opportunity comes along. It's like having to do an interview for your job ALL the time!

**When you are not acting, what other jobs do you do?**

I work in a theatre on the Front of House team.





**What are you looking forward to most about *Hare and Tortoise*?**

Getting to play around and be very bouncy in rehearsals.

**If your character was a human, who do you think he would be most like?**

Your little brothers and sisters!

**How are you like your character?**

When I get very excited about something I start to talk very fast and my mind starts to jump from one thing to another. I think this is something Hare might do too.

**What is your favourite children's story? Why?**

*A Christmas Carol*. It's probably lots of people's favourite story, but the book really gets me in a Wintery and Christmassy mood, and they're two of my favourite things.



## **Elizabeth Eves plays TORTOISE**

### **What other acting jobs have you done?**

Lots of travelling England, Scotland and Wales, with lots of theatre companies. I've also been to Germany with another children's show called 'The Musicians of Bremen', based on the Brothers' Grimm fairytale.

### **How long have you been acting?**

19 years.

### **Did you have special training to be an actor?**

Yes, I did drama at school, College, and then at a Drama School called Rose Bruford. I think you have to keep practicing, even now, even when you don't have a paid job. It makes you better.

### **What has been your favourite part/character so far?**

All the six characters in a show I did about the Tolpuddle Martyrs. It was a show based on a true story about real people in the 19th Century. The Tolpuddle Martyrs stood up for working people who didn't have much money. I played women, men, and a dragon!

### **What is the best thing about being an actor?**

You get to play! To pretend to be other people is brilliant.

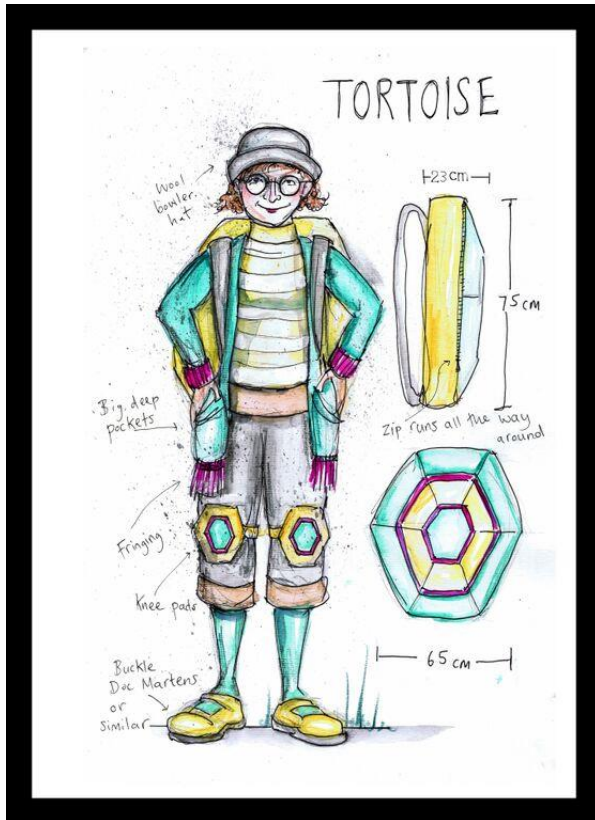
### **What is the hardest thing about being an actor?**

Sometimes not having work. And sometimes being away from home when you are in work.

### **When you are not acting, what other jobs do you do?**

I am a Secretary for Television companies.





**What are you looking forward to most about *Hare and Tortoise*?**

Learning how to be the Tortoise, working at the Nottingham Playhouse, and meeting the children in the audience.

**If your character was a human, who do you think she would be most like?**

At the moment, a Grandma. But that might change.

**How are you like your character?**

I do take some things slowly, so I can be sure of things. And I like to be kind.

**What is your favourite children's story?**

I love Enid Blyton's *The Faraway Tree*. Because of the toffee pops. I love food! Also *Malory Towers* - because of midnight feasts with friends.





## **Allie Spencer is the DIRECTOR**

**Allie is Education Officer for Nottingham Playhouse. She runs workshops and groups for all ages, both at the Playhouse and off-site, creates online resources for Playhouse shows, and is directing *The Shakespeare Schools Massive* in the Spring.**



### **What other plays have you directed?**

I've directed three other plays for Nottingham Playhouse that have toured around schools – *Lessons at 10*, *The Chalk Story*, and *The Bulwell Plays*. I also direct plays for our Youth Theatres, Ensemble and Summer Schools. I directed *GREASE* in the Summer with a cast of thirty 9 – 16 year olds. That was loads of fun!

### **Why did you want to direct this play?**

I love the story of the Hare and the Tortoise and I really like Brendan Murray's script. It's not just about the race – it's about two friends spending special time with each other. It's about Tortoise teaching Hare to slow down and notice things, and about Hare learning to look after Tortoise as well as the other way round, maybe similar to you looking after your Grandma or Grandad.

### **Are you a Hare or a Tortoise?**

A bit of both. I'm always busy and rushing around. I find life really exciting and I put my full energy into everything and I pack loads of things into a day. I'm never still – except when I'm asleep! BUT... I'm a tortoise over my food – I like to enjoy every mouthful, and I'm a tortoise when I'm reading a book or writing a letter (or even this Resource pack) as I like to think about what I'm reading/writing. I'm also a tortoise when it comes to anything remotely sporty!

### **What's the most exciting thing about directing the play?**

I can't wait to work with the actors in the rehearsal space, especially the section where Hare and Tortoise go on holiday (I LOVE holidays!) and also the race. We're going to have so much fun! I'm also looking forward to using the actors' musical instruments in the space. They are both great musicians and I think live music in a theatre production is really exciting.

### **What will children like about this play?**

You will love the characters of Hare and Tortoise – they are both very funny!  
You will also love the fact that you can get involved in the performance. How?  
You'll have to wait and see!

### **What is your favourite children's story?**

My favourite children's stories are all by Noel Streatfeild – "Ballet Shoes"  
"Curtain Up" and the "Gemma" series. I love them because they are about  
ordinary children from a fairly poor background who fall in love with the  
Performing Arts (Drama, Dancing and Music) and make a career out of it. They  
made me feel that I could do it too if I worked hard enough – and I have!

But I've also always liked Hare and Tortoise as I was very slow at primary  
school – I was even put on "The Slow Table"! Like Tortoise, I needed a bit more  
time to think things through and get them down on paper, but I would plod on  
and always get there in the end!



Rehearsal Photograph by Fatosh Olgacher

## **Amanda Hall is MOVEMENT DIRECTOR**

**What do you have to consider/think about when choreographing for a theatre production?**

I think about the story we want to tell and the space we are working in. Then I look at the actors and what they can do and any music.



**What are the stages you go through when creating movement for a show?**

I read the story and listen to any music or learn any songs. Then I think about actual steps and movement. I try and prepare as much as I can at home then when I work with the actors we develop the movement together.

**What other choreography jobs have you done?**

I've done a lot of Musical Theatre like 'Grease' & 'Bugsy Malone', and many Pantomimes. I've also choreographed some plays like 'Romeo & Juliet'

**How long have you been choreographing?**

I have been working as a choreographer for over 30 years!

**Did you have to have special training to be a choreographer?**

I first started dancing when I was 3 years old. I did a lot of performing through school and youth theatre and developed my skills for working with other people. So, my training was more about having lots of experience along with my dancing.

**What is the best thing about being a choreographer/movement director?**

I love being creative and working with people. I like to encourage people to do things they might not have thought possible. Dancing and movement is fun.



### **What is the hardest thing about being a choreographer?**

Because dance and movement are physical activities it can be hard work. The actors sometimes have to work very hard to make the movement look easy to the audience.

### **What are you looking forward to most about *Hare and Tortoise*?**

I'm looking forward to adding some movement to this lovely story so that it is fun to watch.

### **What is your favourite children's story?**

I loved reading *Ballet Shoes* by Noel Streatfeild when I was young but *Matilda* by Roald Dahl is probably one of my favourite stories. It says that we are all unique and should not be held back by our background. It just takes one person to encourage us and we can achieve great things.



Rehearsal Photograph by Fatosh Olgacher

## **Sarah Lewis is the Designer**

### **What do you have to consider/think about when designing for a theatre production?**

There are lots of different things to think about – these include the size of the space that the play will be performed in, the age group of the audience, the budget (the amount of money there is to be spent), the sort of story the director is interested in telling, and simply how to make the design as interesting to the audience and as useful to the actors as possible!



### **What are the stages you go through when designing for a show?**

First stage is to read the script, so that that you know what the play is all about. Second is meeting with the Director - we discuss how the design can help get across the ideas that they think are important for the play, and I talk about any early thoughts I've had, to see if they like those ideas. Next, I go away and do lots of research in books and on the Internet, and even outside – looking at things that inspire me. Then there's lots of sketching and making of a 'rough model' of the set out of card and paper. After another meeting with the Director to make sure we are both happy with the plan for the design, I make the final model, which is 25 times smaller than the real thing – but still has all of the detail. This, along with costume designs, prop drawings, technical drawings (which the carpenters use to build the scenery to the correct measurements) are presented to all of the different 'production departments' at the theatre who are going to transform my designs into the real things that you will see on stage!

### **What other design jobs have you done?**

A lot of my design work has been with Nottingham Playhouse – in fact this will be the 21st play I have designed for them!

These have included *The Second Minute* (A rural touring play about a young soldier in WW1) *The Willow Pattern* (a youth theatre show about a pair of young lovers who run away together) *The Tempest* (A work experience show for teenagers) and *Grease* (A Summer School show)

I have also worked in the Props Department at The Playhouse, making things for 'Grandpa in my Pocket' and 'Robin Hood and the Babes in the Woods' pantomime.



Ariel in *The Tempest*

Other design jobs I have had include 'The Crucible' for the Birmingham School of Acting, 'Peter Pan' for Duck Egg Theatre and 'Cantre'r Gwaelod' (A Crossing Borders project at Theatre Clwyd).

I also do other sort of design jobs – I run my own company making puppets for the theatre and gifts.

### **How long have you been designing?**

I've been designing for five years now, since graduating from university.

### **Did you have to have special training to be a designer?**

I trained to become a Theatre Designer on a course at University (Nottingham Trent), called, as you might expect, 'Theatre Design'! We learned about model making, set and costume design and prop and puppet making – as well as lot of other things. Before that, I'd done an Art Foundation at college, Art and Theatre Studies A-Levels, and Art and Drama GCSEs.

### **What is the best thing about being a designer?**

There are many great things - but one of the best things must be helping to create something that starts life as maybe a sketch, and turns into a magical world on the stage for the actors to perform in, that helps tell the story to the audience.



### **What is the hardest thing about being a designer?**

Because it is very unusual for theatres to have 'in-house designers' (designers who design all of their plays), it means that designers are usually 'self-employed'. This means that you travel about, taking on work all over the place - which on one hand is very exciting, but on the other hand can be quite tiring. Sometimes there are gaps in jobs – meaning you maybe have to juggle different sorts of work alongside design work. It's fun, but sometimes it can difficult.

### **What are you looking forward to most about Hare and Tortoise?**

I most look forward to seeing all the different elements that everybody has worked on come together – and seeing the reaction of the children watching it!

### **What is your favourite children's story? Why?**

Ooh, there are lots to choose from – my Granny used to read me lots of stories when I was little and I have many lovely memories of those. I think if I had to pick a favourite, it would be *Princess Smartypants* by Babette Cole. It's a really funny story about a Princess whose parents want her to wear pretty dresses, get married and be 'normal' - but instead, she plays with her pets (who happen to be monsters!), wears dungarees, rides a motorbike and is a generally free spirit. It's got a great message about being who you want to be – not what other people think you should be. It's also got some fab, colourful illustrations.



Sarah's design for HARE AND TORTOISE

## **Louise Pearson is the STAGE MANAGER**

### **What does a stage manager do?**

In rehearsals: I watch rehearsals and write down everything that happens during the show, in a special script called The Book. This means if something is forgotten on stage, I can check the book to see what is supposed to happen.



It also means that if the show was done again with different people, they could look at my book and perform it exactly as we did. If the director or actors have any questions during rehearsals, it is my job to pass these on to the right people.

When the show is on: Before the show I set up the stage and put all the props where they need to start, as they often move around during the performance. During the show I operate the sound and lights from the back of the theatre, using the book I made in rehearsals to tell me when things need to happen. If there is something the actors can't do, like changing a scene, then I will do that too. I also help to look after the cast and make sure they are happy and safe on stage.

### **What training did you have to be a stage manager?**

I went to university to learn about how a theatre works and there I learnt the basics of a lot of different theatre jobs, because I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. When I knew I wanted to be a stage manager I did a lot of work experience, watching what stage managers do and learning 'on the job'. But there are a lot of ways to become a stage manager. You can go to university like me, or you can start by doing little jobs backstage, or you can just do lots and lots of work experience!

### **What is the best thing about your job?**

I love my job because it involves meeting lots of new people and doing different exciting things everyday! My favourite part of the job is seeing the audience's reaction to the show, because it makes all our hard work worth it!

### **What's the hardest thing about your job?**

I sometimes work away from home and work very late at night which means it can be hard to organise time to meet up with my friends.



### **Are you more of a hare or a tortoise?**

Before this show, I would have said I was a tortoise because I love snuggling up to sleep in bed. But we have played a lot of energetic games in rehearsals and I have found I enjoy trying to win them, so I think I have found my inner hare!



## In Rehearsal

Rehearsals can be hard work, but they need to be fun too. Each morning we start with a warm up which warms up our bodies and voices, and then we often play a game so that we enter rehearsals in a playful mood. The favourite company game is Tin Can Lurky (a bit like hide and seek).

Every afternoon we have a race – Team Hare v Team Tortoise. Races have included Egg and Spoon, Dressing up, Obstacle, Wheelbarrow, Piggy back and even a crawling race – anything that gets the team’s competitive spirit going. It is important that the team plays games, has fun and builds up a good team spirit as they are going to be touring together so need to get on well.

When we are rehearsing a scene we try it lots of different ways to see what works best. We are also very careful to make sure that the audience can see the actors at all times – even when the audience is sitting around the set on three sides. We try to keep the pace of the play quite fast as Hare is a character that does everything very fast. However we also make sure there are some contrasting slow, peaceful moments like when Tortoise is fishing, or sitting having a cup of tea. If the play is too fast all the time then the characters of Hare and Tortoise won’t come across properly, the play will be confusing, and both the actors and audience will be exhausted!





# A Tortoise's Perfect Home

## Where do Tortoises like to live?



Tortoises like to live somewhere that has small slopes or hills.

### Why?

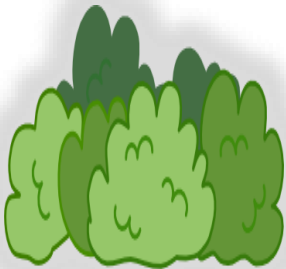
Sometimes they fall on their backs and can't get up easily on flat ground. Hills also help to keep the ground dry as water will flow down them.



They like to live somewhere with lots of plants and vegetables to eat.

### Why?

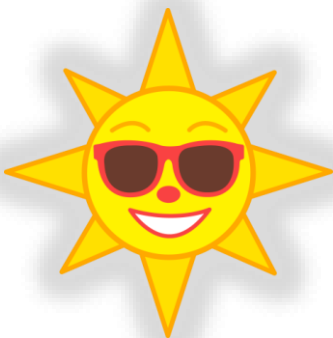
Tortoises like to nibble on plants and vegetables during the day.



They like to be close to bushes and rocks that they can use as shelter.

### Why?

When it rains, tortoises like to be covered. They like to use bushes as beds at night time.



They like to be somewhere they can get sunlight every day.

### Why?

Tortoises have very cold blood. They need to lie in the sun at the beginning of the day to warm up their bodies in order to carry on with their day.



## Exercise 1

Underneath each of these pictures give them a tick ✓ if you think a tortoise would like to live here, or a cross ✗ if you think a tortoise would be unhappy in this home and say WHY!

1



2



3



4



## Exercise 2

In the box below, draw a picture of a great home for a tortoise!





## A Hare's Perfect Home

# Where Do Hares Like To Live?



Hares like to live in big open spaces.

## Why?

Hares do not hibernate and like to be free to run around.



Hares like to live near farmland.

## Why?

Hares only eat vegetables and plants. They don't hibernate or store food so they need a constant food supply all year round.



Hares like to live near hedges and tall grass.

## Why?

Hares like to use hedges and tall grass as protection from other animals. They hide in them to not be seen.

Hares like to live on soft ground

## Why?

Hares dig very small holes in the ground called 'forms'. They use these small ditches to sleep and it is also where their children are born.





### Exercise 3

Underneath each of these pictures give them a tick ✓ if you think a hare would like to live here, or a cross ✗ if you think a hare would be unhappy in this home and say WHY!

1.



---

2.



---

3.



---

4.



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Exercise 4

In the box below, draw a picture of a great home for a hare!



## Answers

### Exercise 1

1. Bad
2. Good
3. Bad
4. Good

### Exercise 2

Key things to look for in the picture.

- Slopes or Hills
- Vegetation
- Sunlight
- Shelter (bushes or rocks)

### Exercise 3

1. Good
2. Bad
3. Bad
4. Good

### Exercise 4

Key things to look for in the picture.

- Open Spaces
- Farmland
- Hedges
- Forms (small ditches)

## Hare Fun Facts

Can run up to  
45mph!

They have  
golden brown  
fur and a white  
belly

They grow to  
50 – 65 cm

Hares live  
alone or in pairs

up to 2.7 kg

Hares are  
herbivores (only  
eat vegetables)

Young hares are  
called leverets

A group of  
hares is known  
as a 'drove'

Hares are born  
with fur and  
their eyes  
open





## Tortoise Fun Facts

Tortoises have extremely strong mouths but no teeth

A tortoise's shell is made up of 60 different bones

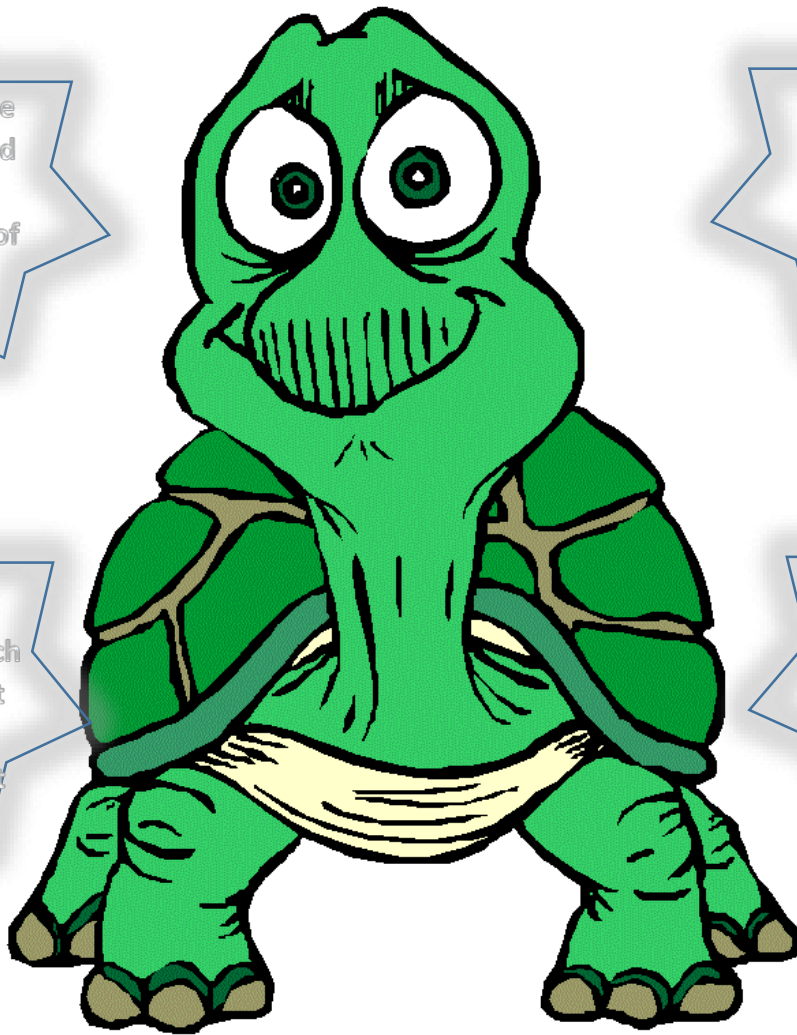
Tortoises can pull back their heads and all their limbs into their shells

Tortoises have great all round vision and a strong sense of smell

Tortoises are cold-blooded

Tortoises are herbivores, which means they eat grass, flowers, leaves and fruit

Female tortoises are usually larger than the males



Tortoises hibernate in the winter time

A tortoise can live for up to 150 years

Females dig burrows in which they can lay up anything from 1 to 30 eggs

## Musical instruments

HARE AND TORTOISE uses three live stringed instruments:

The violin, the mandolin and the ukulele.

They all look and sound different.

The violin sounds like this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAMyIP-HZOU>



The mandolin sounds like this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9OJ0bsylrc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYVQWnMxkpI>



The ukulele sounds like this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWNmHtdffC8>



How do you feel when listening to each of these instruments?

Which instrument do you think is suitable for which animal? Why?

The play of HARE AND TORTOISE is divided up into the four seasons – Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn with transitions between each season.

Which instruments would you use for the following transitions and why? The words will be sung or spoken by the actors. (There is no right or wrong answer – at the time of writing this pack we haven't even made this decision!)

## **Script excerpt one: Winter into Spring**

**The world was winter: shivery and shaking...**

**Tortoise sleeping: sound and silent...**

**Hare was waiting, wishing, wondering**

**When will Tortoise wake..?**

**(WINTER BECOMES SPRING)**

**The world turns and buds blossom...**

**Breathing, branching:**

**Becoming spring!**

## **Script excerpt two: Spring into Summer**

**The world was springtime: breathing, branching...**

**Tortoise waking: slowly stretching...**

**Hare was waiting, wishing, wondering**

**When will Tortoise race..?**

**(SPRING TURNS INTO SUMMER)**

**The world turns and sun sizzles...**

**Swoons and swelters:**

**Becoming summer!**

## **Script excerpt three: Summer into Autumn**

The world was summer: sweltering and swooning...

Tortoise fishing: softly sighing...

When will Tortoise race?

**SUMMER TURNS INTO AUTUMN**

The world turns and grows golden...

Gleaming, glowing:

Becoming autumn!

## **Script excerpt four: Autumn into Winter**

**HARE :** Winter? Is that next?

**(THEY SHIVER SUDDENLY...)**

**TORTOISE:** Now!

**(FOURTH INTERLUDE: AUTUMN INTO WINTER)**

**BOTH:**

The world was autumn: gleaming, glowing...

Tortoise racing: winning, whooping...

Hare was weary: worried, wondering

How he lost the race...

**(AUTUMN BECOMES WINTER... THEY BUILD A NEST FOR TORTOISE)**

The world turns and snows falling...

Frosty, freezing:

Becoming winter!



## Are you a Tortoise or a Hare?

Hare is always in a hurry – whether he is cleaning his teeth, washing his face, or planting his carrot seeds.

Tortoise takes her time. She enjoys looking around her, doesn't rush her picnic and sits back and relaxes whilst fishing.

Are you a Tortoise or a Hare, or are a bit of both? Think about the things you do in your day and write them in the Tortoise or Hare column. For example... getting dressed, cleaning my teeth, walking to school, eating my lunch, changing for P.E., doing my homework, getting ready for bed!

<b>Tortoise (I do these things slowly)</b>	<b>Hare ( I do these things quickly)</b>

# The Olympics 2016

Imagine Hare got a chance to represent Great Britain at the Olympics!

On the official Olympic website there are fact files of some of the most famous athletes, eg Usain Bolt.

Create a fact file for HARE using the template provided or using your own IT equipment

<http://www.rio2016.com/en/usain-bolt>

Draw the UK flag

How many Gold Medals and world records has Hare won in the past?

What events could Hare enter? You can make up some Olympic sports if you like, for example The Hopping Relay!




















Is it Hare's 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Olympics?

What is the funniest thing that has ever happened to Hare in a competition? Maybe having to race a Tortoise?

Draw a picture of Hare in action

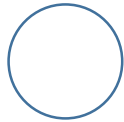
What medals does Hare want to win this year? Has he set himself a world record to beat?

Draw headshots of two athletes you think Hare would admire in the circles and then write their names in the box, and what they are famous for.

		Great Britain	
Photo:			
<b>HARE</b>			
	How many Gold Medals? In what?		How many World Records? In what?
	Full name:		Date and location of Birth:
	Height:		Weight:
	Events entered for:		
<b>Trivia</b>			
	Rio 2016 will be his _____ Olympic Games		Goals for Rio 2016:
	Favourite food:		Hobbies:
	Best aspect of being a professional athlete:		Worst aspect of being a professional athlete:
<b>Funniest situation in a competition</b>		<b>Idols</b>	
			
			
	" " " "		

Headshot of Hare

A quote by Hare





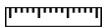




Great Britain









Photo:

## HARE



	How many Gold Medals? In what?		How many World Records? In what?
	Full name:		Date and location of Birth:
	Height:		Weight:
	Events entered for:		

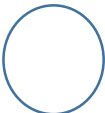
## Trivia

	Rio 2016 will be his _____ Olympic Games		Goals for Rio 2016:
	Favourite food:		Hobbies:
	Best aspect of being a professional athlete:		Worst aspect of being a professional athlete:

**Funniest situation in a competition**

**Idols**

	“		”
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## Holidays! (A scene from HARE AND TORTOISE by Brendan Murray)

HARE Race now?

TORTOISE Maybe when we get there.

HARE Where?

TORTOISE On holiday!

HARE Holiday?

TORTOISE Yes.

HARE Yes!

THEY PACK. HARE FINDS TWO TENNIS RACKETS. TORTOISE NODS AND PACKS THEM. HARE FINDS A BUTTERFLY NET. TORTOISE NODS AND PACKS IT. HARE FINDS THE FISHING ROD. HE'S NOT SURE WHAT IT IS. TORTOISE NODS WITH ENTHUSIASM AND PACKS IT. HARE FINDS HIS DRUM. TORTOISE LOOKS INCREDULOUS. HARE LOOKS IMPLORINGLY...

TORTOISE OK.

HARE Yes!

TORTOISE But you can carry it!

HARE Oh!

TORTOISE So... Are we ready?

HARE Yes.

TORTOISE Then off we go.

THEY TRAVEL UNTIL THEY ARRIVE

TORTOISE Here we are!

HARE Race now?

TORTOISE Isn't it too hot?

HARE No!

TORTOISE Well, if you can wait one minute...



HARE One minute? Easy! [HE TRIES] Yes?

TORTOISE [CHECKING HER WATCH] No.

HARE Oh!

TORTOISE Never mind. Anyone for tennis?

HARE Yes!

HARE FIRES OFF THREE ACES WHILE TORTOISE IS  
TAKING POSITION

HARE One, two, three... Game!

THEY CHANGE ENDS. ANOTHER THREE ACES

HARE One, two, three... Set!

THEY CHANGE ENDS AGAIN. ANOTHER THREE ACES

HARE One, two, three... Match! The winner!

HARE CELEBRATES NOISILY

HARE Yes! Hot now... Thirsty.

TORTOISE [BEAT] Come on then.

HARE Where are we going?

TORTOISE For a picnic!

HARE Yes!

THEY TRAVEL UNTIL THEY ARRIVE

TORTOISE Here we are!

HARE Drink now?

TORTOISE Wait...

TORTOISE SLOWLY LAYS OUT THE PICNIC CLOTH  
AND PRODUCES TWO CUPS

BOTH [CLINKING CUPS] Picnics!

## Going on holiday

Where could Hare and Tortoise go on holiday? Is there an environment where both animals can live happily? Would they prefer a hot or cold country? Why?

What would Hare and Tortoise pack in their suitcases?



Hare and Tortoise have been fishing, catching butterflies, playing tennis and having a picnic. What other activities could they do on holiday? Can you write the next scene?

Imagine Hare and Tortoise both write a postcard home. What will they say on their cards? Do you think their accounts of their holiday will be very different?



## A healthy picnic

Hare and Tortoise go on a picnic. On the next two pages are some foods they might have taken with them. Cut out the food cards.

Pick out your favourite foods. What would you pack for a picnic?

Use the food cards to play memory games, snap or games such as "Shopping List"

Can you arrange them into:

Healthy foods v unhealthy foods

Foods a real tortoise and hare would eat

What foods are missing that you enjoy? Why not make some cards of your own?



**Apple**



**Bananas**



**Breadsticks**



**Carrot sticks**



**Celery**



**Cheese**



**Samosa**



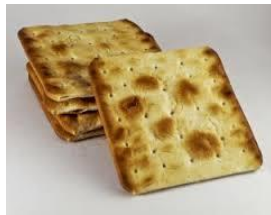
**Cup Cake**



**Coke**



**Crackers**



**Cress**



**Orange juice**



**Cucumber**



**Doughnut**



**Eggs**



**Cake**



**Grapes**



**Hummus**



**Sweets**



**Lettuce**



<p><b>Lollipop</b></p> 	<p><b>Toffee</b></p> 	<p><b>Nuts</b></p> 	<p><b>Oranges</b></p> 
<p><b>Pear</b></p> 	<p><b>Pineapple</b></p> 	<p><b>Pork Pie</b></p> 	<p><b>Raisins</b></p> 
<p><b>Ribena</b></p> 	<p><b>Sandwich</b></p> 	<p><b>Sausage Rolls</b></p> 	<p><b>Scotch Eggs</b></p> 
<p><b>Onion Bhajis</b></p> 	<p><b>Sweets</b></p> 	<p><b>Olives</b></p> 	<p><b>Tomatoes</b></p> 
<p><b>Yoghurt</b></p> 	<p><b>Chocolate Bar</b></p> 	<p><b>Crisps</b></p> 	<p><b>Popcorn</b></p> 



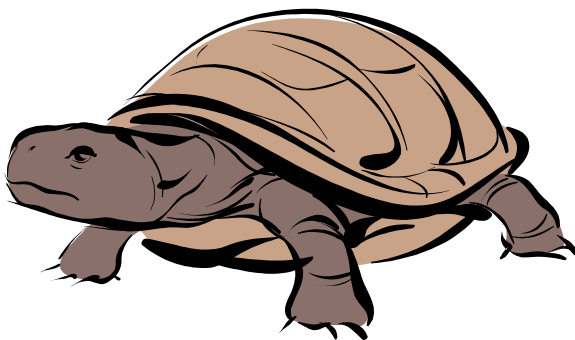
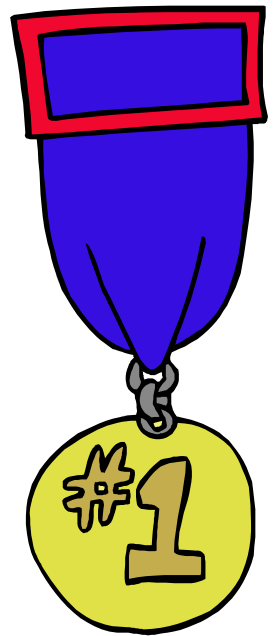
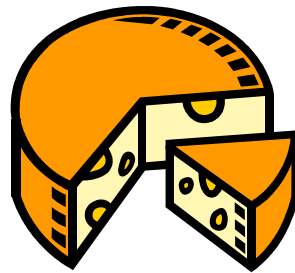
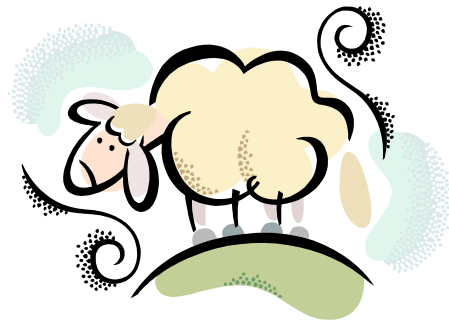
# Story Bag



**Cut out the items and the bag. Fold the bag over creating a pocket to keep the items in. Sellotape the two sides.**

**Put the items into columns - part of the story and not part of the story.**

**Talk about their role in the story.**



**Part of the story**

**Not part of the story**

## Growing Carrots

Hare and Tortoise grow carrots together.

They plant them in the Spring and then look after them until the Autumn when Hare harvests them.

Hare learns he has to be patient and wait for the carrots to grow. How patient can you be?

Plant some carrots inside or outside your classroom.

Can you measure the seedlings as they grow?

Seedlings have to be thinned/separated out as they get bigger. The ones you pull out you can eat in a salad – a bit like cress! When ready to be planted outside, they can be planted in rows 15cm apart, 1cm deep.

The first harvest can be done in July, just before school breaks up.

Maybe each table/class group could have their own set of carrot seeds to look after...

Some useful websites:

<http://www.education.com/worksheet/article/carrot-life-cycle/>

[http://www.kiddiegardens.com/growing\\_carrots.html](http://www.kiddiegardens.com/growing_carrots.html)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/736x/7b/1d/a1/7b1da155d80a434bd04f0846202f34f5.jpg>



## **Suggested activities:**

We hope you have enjoyed some of the activities we have included in the pack. Here are a few other suggestions for things you might like to do/make in class or at home on a rainy day....

### **To do:**

Make a telescope for Hare and Tortoise to study the stars.

Use google maps to plan out a safe route for a race near your school or home.

Use a stopwatch to time a personal race against the clock. Investigate changes of environmental circumstances eg change of clothing, uphill, downhill, cold day , hot day etc. Create a graph to show your findings.

Create your own 3D environment/set for HARE AND TORTOISE.

Mark out your playground or classroom floor for a race and programme a Bee-bot or floor turtle to follow the route.

There are lots of Olympic based ideas here:

<http://www.instantdisplay.co.uk/olympics2016teachingresources.htm>

### **Find out more about:**

You can find out more about tortoises and their environments here:

<http://www.tortoisetrust.org/articles/habitatdesign.htm>

<http://www.tortoisetrust.org/articles/Turkeyhabitats.htm>

You can find out more about Aesop's fables here:

<http://www.taleswithmorals.com/>

What are the differences between hares and rabbits?

[http://www.diffen.com/difference/Hare vs Rabbit](http://www.diffen.com/difference/Hare_vs_Rabbit)

We hope this pack has been useful. Please give us feedback by emailing [allies@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk](mailto:allies@nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk) Enjoy the play!