



THE TRICK

A Tale from the Southwest



by Roy Lewis
illustrated by Cathy Shimmen

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

 **THE
TRICK**
A Tale from the Southwest



by Roy Lewis
illustrated by Cathy Shimmen



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT
School Publishers

Copyright © by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner unless such copying is expressly permitted by federal copyright law. Requests for permission to make copies of any part of the work should be addressed to Houghton Mifflin Harcourt School Publishers, Attn: Permissions, 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, Florida 32887-6777.

Printed in China

ISBN-10: 0-547-25291-9

ISBN-13: 978-0-547-25291-9

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 0940 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11

If you have received these materials as examination copies free of charge, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt School Publishers retains title to the materials and they may not be resold. Resale of examination copies is strictly prohibited.

Possession of this publication in print format does not entitle users to convert this publication, or any portion of it, into electronic format.



🔊 Coyote and Rabbit did not get along.

Coyote was fast and **swift**. He was smart, too. But Rabbit was faster. And Rabbit was smarter.

The two animals could not live together **peacefully**. So Coyote wanted to teach Rabbit a lesson.





Crow



Hawk



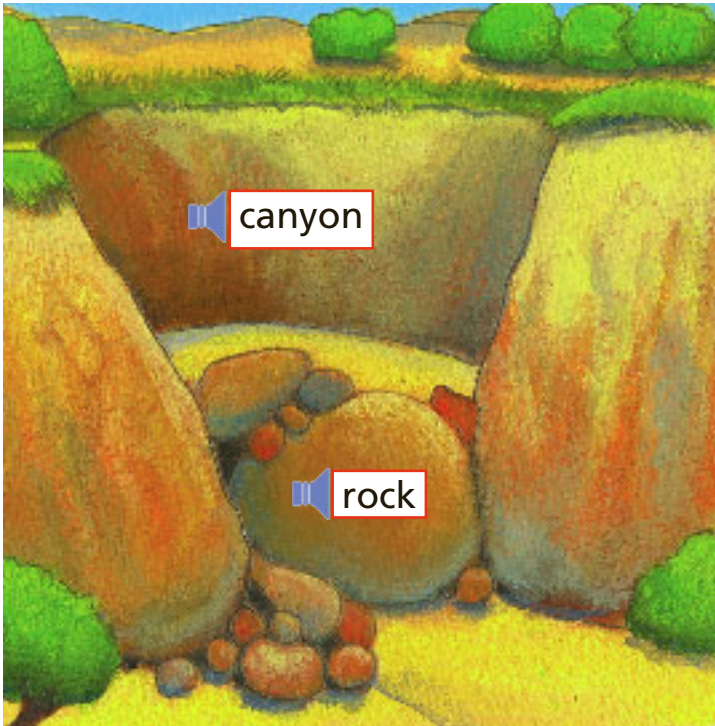
In the morning, Hawk and Crow were talking. Coyote listened to them.

Crow said, “That was a big storm last night!”

Hawk said, “Yes! It was a big storm! Lightning hit a tree and started a fire. It blazed up and over the canyon. Then it hit a big rock on the rim of the canyon. The rock fell into the canyon.”

🔊 Crow asked, “Is that the place where the stream flows after it rains a lot?”

🔊 Hawk said, “Yes. That is the place. It is blocked now. The stream is empty. The rock fell to the bottom of the canyon. So the opening is closed. So now there is only one way out of the canyon if you can’t fly.



🔊 Coyote had listened to Hawk and Crow. Now he was very excited. Once, he had chased Rabbit into that canyon. But then Rabbit had jumped sideways into a small hole. Coyote was too big to get in that hole.

🔊 But now the hole was gone. So Coyote would try to chase Rabbit there again.

The next day, Rabbit hopped into the canyon. Coyote **flung** himself in front of Rabbit.



🔊 Rabbit



🔊 This time Coyote’s plan worked. Rabbit did not know that the way out was blocked. He came to the place where he had jumped sideways. But the hole was blocked. There was no way for him to get out.

🔊 Rabbit looked around. He saw that there was no way to escape from Coyote. Rabbit stayed calm. He said, “You are smarter than me, Coyote.”

Coyote liked hearing those words. He liked to think that he was smarter than Rabbit.



🔊 Rabbit said, “I have an offer for you. You did do a good job planning this trick. But you did not put the rock in my path.”

🔊 Coyote knew that Rabbit was right.

Then Rabbit said, “This is my offer. If you let me go, I will teach you all our tricks. Then you can catch rabbits whenever you want.”

🔊 Coyote said, “Why should I let you go?”

Rabbit said, “Well, you can eat me today. Or you can learn how to eat well every day.”

“But you will trick me and run away,” said Coyote.

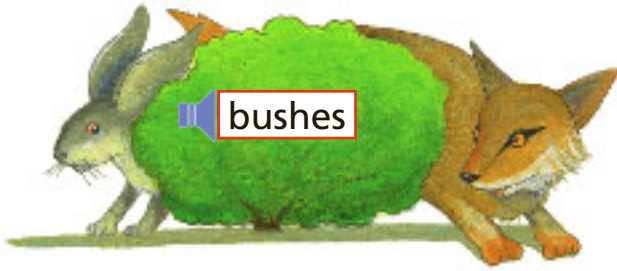
🔊 “No, I will not,” said Rabbit. “I will show you how we trick you and then get away.”

“But how can I trust you?” said Coyote. “You have tricked me so many times.”

“I always keep my word,” said Rabbit.

“Okay,” said Coyote. “You can teach me your tricks.”





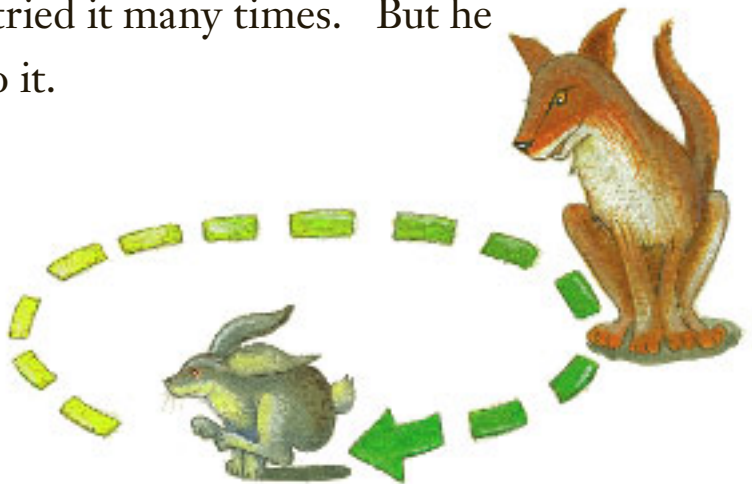
🔊 Rabbit showed Coyote how to hide. He could get tangled in some bushes. Then he would not be seen. But Coyote knew this trick.

Then Rabbit showed him how to run in circles. But Coyote knew this trick, too. So Rabbit showed him how to stop quickly.

🔊 But Coyote said, “I know all these tricks. Show me a new trick.”

Rabbit said, “This is my best trick. It is a quick step to the side. Try it.”

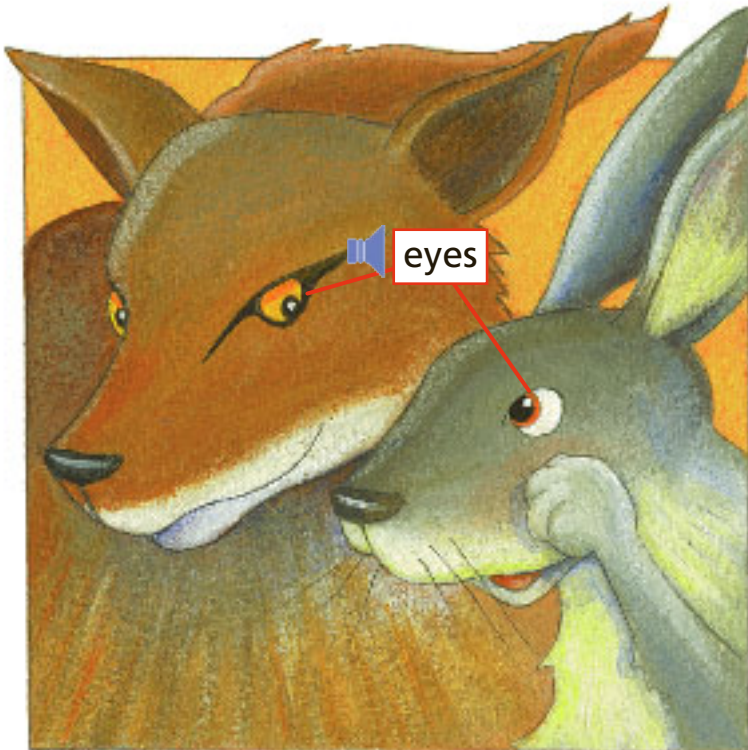
Coyote tried it many times. But he could not do it.



🔊 Rabbit said, “Your eyes are in the wrong place.”

Coyote said, “My eyes are fine!”

Rabbit said, “They are fine for a coyote. But I am a rabbit. My eyes are on the side of my head. I see well to the side. Your eyes are in the front of your head. So you cannot see to the side.”



🔊 Rabbit said, “Try to turn your head to the side. Then keep it there. Then you will be able to see to jump to the side.”

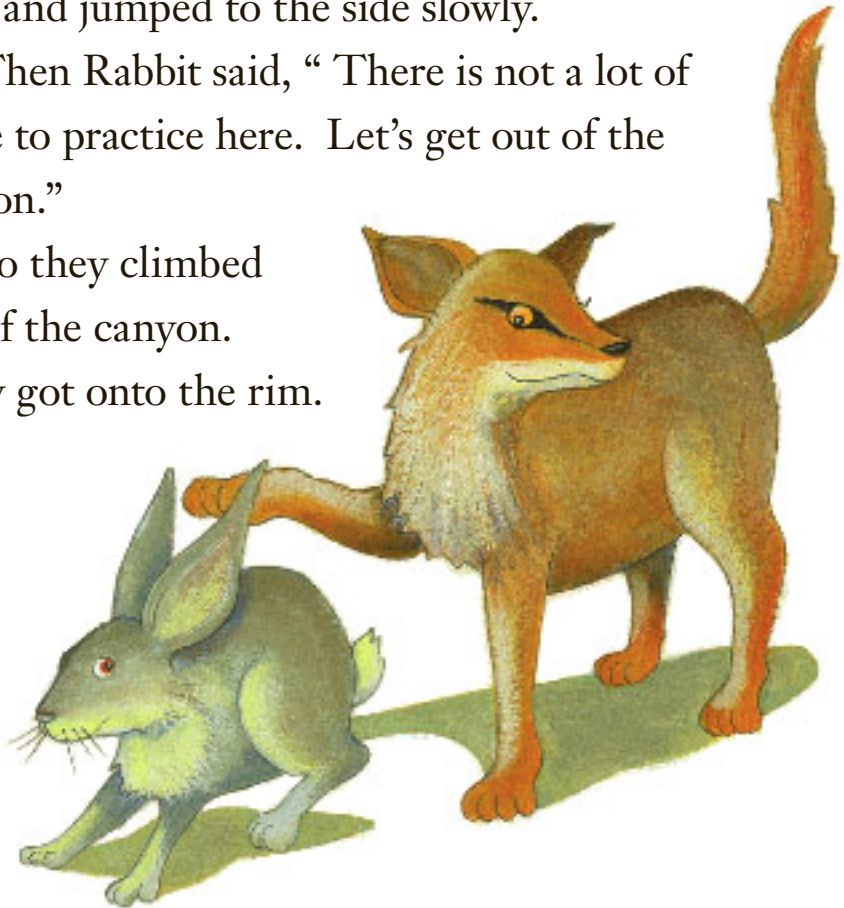
“It’s not very easy to do that,” said Coyote.

“We can practice it a few times,” said Rabbit.

🔊 Coyote tried many times. He turned his head and jumped to the side slowly.

Then Rabbit said, “There is not a lot of space to practice here. Let’s get out of the canyon.”

So they climbed
out of the canyon.
They got onto the rim.






▶ The animals practiced. Rabbit jumped sideways. Coyote jumped with him. He did not like holding his head to the side. He could not see where he was going. But he did want to learn the trick.

Rabbit said, “Let’s try again.”

▶ They moved along the edge of the rim of the canyon. Rabbit ran very fast. Coyote ran after him.


Then Rabbit yelled, “Get ready!”

▶ But this time Rabbit did not jump sideways. He stopped. Coyote was looking to the side. So he did not see Rabbit. Then Coyote tripped over Rabbit and fell over the edge of the canyon. He was **tumbling** in the air!

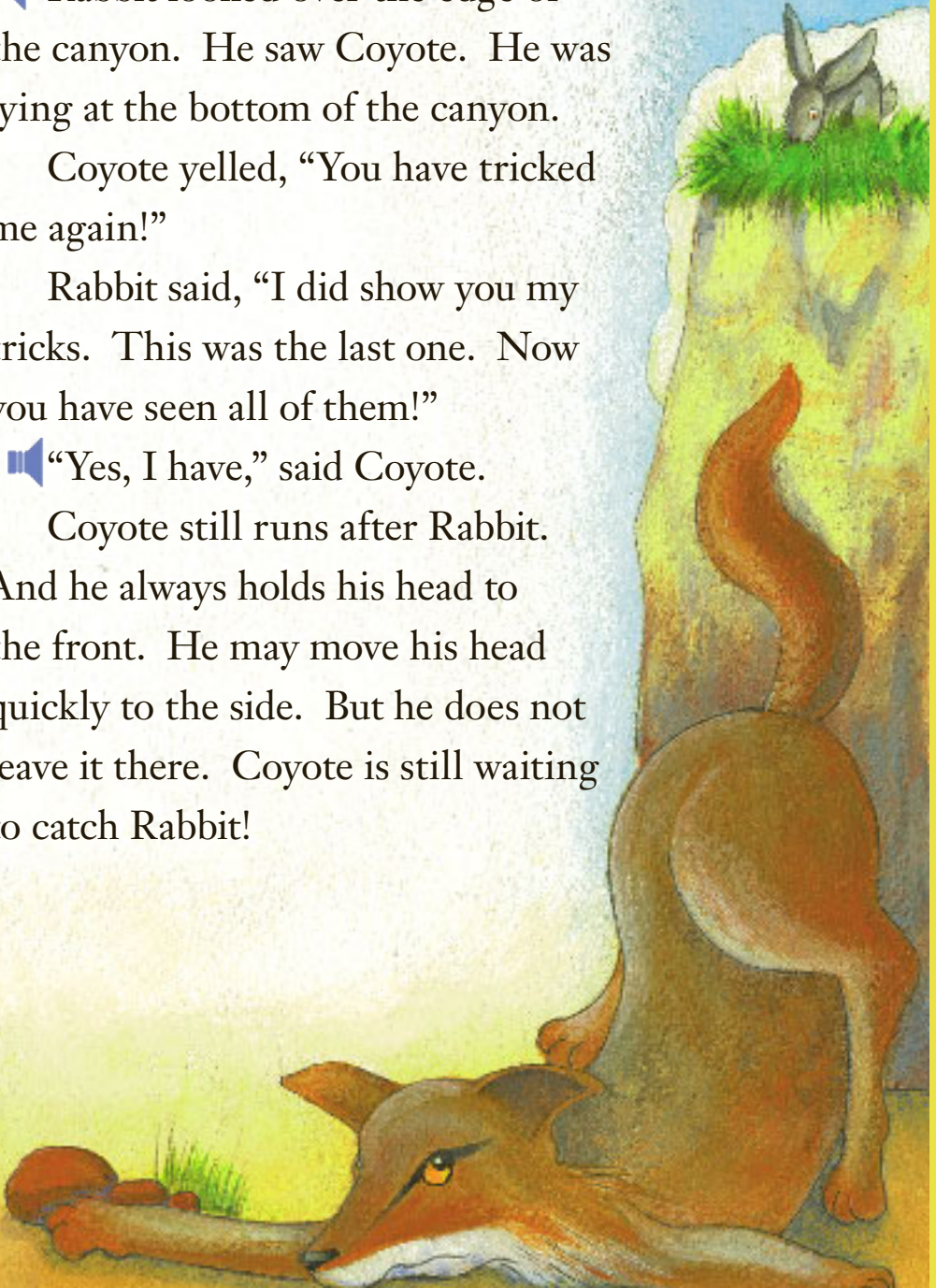
 Rabbit looked over the edge of the canyon. He saw Coyote. He was lying at the bottom of the canyon.

Coyote yelled, “You have tricked me again!”

Rabbit said, “I did show you my tricks. This was the last one. Now you have seen all of them!”

 “Yes, I have,” said Coyote.

Coyote still runs after Rabbit. And he always holds his head to the front. He may move his head quickly to the side. But he does not leave it there. Coyote is still waiting to catch Rabbit!



Responding

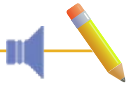


TARGET SKILL

Cause and Effect

In this tale, Coyote tried to trick Rabbit. This caused other things to happen. Copy the chart below. Write what happened.

Cause	Effect
Coyote tried to trick Rabbit.	



Write About It

Text to World Make notes for a research report about folktales about Coyote. Include details that help readers learn about these special kinds of folk tales.



TARGET VOCABULARY

blazed

empty

flung

peacefully

tangled

tumbling

stream

swift



TARGET SKILL

Cause and Effect Tell

how one event makes another happen.



TARGET STRATEGY

Visualize Picture what

is happening as you read.



GENRE A **folktale** is a story that is often

told by people of a country.

Level: J

DRA: 18

Genre:

Folktale

Strategy:

Visualize

Skill:

Cause and Effect

Word Count: 550

2.5.24

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

Online Levelled Books



ISBN-13: 978-0-547-25291-9
ISBN-10: 0-547-25291-9



**HOUGHTON
MIFFLIN
HARCOURT**
School Publishers

1387973