

- RL.2.9** Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story by different authors or from different cultures.
- RL.2.10** By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories and poetry, in the grades 2–3 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.
- CCR.R.9** Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.



## UNDERSTAND THE STANDARDS



Alice knows a story with three related characters. Jamal does, too. Jamal knows “Three Billy Goats Gruff.” Alice knows “Goldilocks and the Three Bears.”

### Words to Know

compare  
contrast

- People all over the world tell stories. Some of the oldest stories have much in common. Many tell about a conflict between good and evil. (Good almost always wins.) Many give the main character a challenge that seems impossible. (The main character almost always succeeds.)
- Different versions of the same story may be told in different countries. For example, many countries have a Cinderella story.

When you read different stories, you may notice how they are alike and how they are different. When you **compare** things, you tell how they are alike. When you **contrast** things, you tell how they are different.



## GUIDED INSTRUCTION

Read the story. Then complete the activities.



Multicultural  
Connection

### How the Goats Came to Hessen (based on a story from Germany)

Long ago, many goats tried and failed to enter the forests of Hessen. The goats were eaten by wolves.



One summer day a kid goat made his way toward the forests of Hessen. A wolf spied the kid.

“I shall eat you up!” said the wolf.

The scared little kid said, “My mother is coming. She is right behind me.”

The wolf thought, “Why ruin my appetite? The mother will be fatter and tastier.” He let the kid pass by.

The mother goat came. The wolf got ready to pounce. “My husband is coming, too!” the mother goat cried.

“The buck goat will be even meatier,” thought the wolf. He let the mother goat pass by.

### Guided Questions

Where does this story take place?

Which was not a character in the story? Circle one.

- a. wolf
- b. bear
- c. ram
- d. kid goat

Why did many goats fail to enter the forests?

Along came the buck. The wolf was about to pounce when he saw spikes on the ram's head.

"What big spikes you have!" said the wolf.

"The spikes are powerful," said the ram. "They can hurt wolves." The buck lowered his head and ran toward the wolf.

The wolf turned and fled.

So it was that the first goat family arrived in Hessen.

### Guided Questions

Why was this family successful in entering the forests?

**Circle the correct answer.**

I. What destroys the wolf?

his greed      the ram

**ON YOUR OWN**

**Read the story.**



**The Sheep, the Lamb, the Wolf, and the Hare**  
**(based on a story from Tibet)**

A sheep and her lamb climbed out of their valley. It was summer, time for grazing in the highland.

A wolf lay in wait. “Sorry,” said the wolf, “but I am very hungry and must eat you both.”



“Hold on!” the sheep replied. “If you wait until we return in the fall, we will be much fatter.”

“Okay,” said the wolf, “But no funny business. Come back in the fall.”

Fall came. The sheep and lamb had to return to their valley before snow fell.

“The wolf will be waiting to eat us,” thought the sheep.

A hare approached her. “Why do you look so sad?” he asked.

“I made a very bad deal with a wolf,” the sheep explained.

“Do not worry,” said the hare. “I know how to manage wolves.”

“Hello there!” called the wolf two days later.

As the sheep came closer, the wolf rubbed his eyes. A hare wearing a long earring and a new woolen robe was riding the sheep. The lamb was trotting happily alongside them.

“What do you think you are doing?” the wolf asked the hare. “That is *my* lamb and *my* sheep.”

“How lucky to have found you!” said the hare. “I work for the Emperor of China. He sent me to get ten wolf skins as a gift for the King of India.”

The hare took out a sheet of paper and pen. He wrote in very large letters, “One wolf.”

The wolf turned and fled.

“Thank you!” said the sheep.

“Thank you!” said the lamb.

“No problem. I know how to manage wolves,” said the hare.





5. On a separate piece of paper, write two ways in which “How the Goats Came to Hessen” and “The Sheep, the Lamb, the Wolf, and the Hare” are alike. Write two ways in which they are different.

**Elevate** 6. Different versions of the same story may be told in different countries. Find two versions of “Cinderella.” You may use the Internet or books from the classroom library.

Read both stories and answer the questions below.

- A. Tell the name of the country where each version was written.
- B. Which version was the best? Why do you think so? Use details from both stories to support your answer.