



The Frog and the Ox

"Oh Father," said a little Frog to the big one sitting by the side of a pool, "I have seen such a terrible monster! It was big as a mountain, with horns on its head, and a long tail, and it had hoofs divided in two."

"Tush, child, tush," said the old Frog, "that was only Farmer White's Ox. It isn't so big either; he may be a little bit taller than I, but I could easily make myself quite as broad; just you see."



So he blew himself out, and blew himself out, and blew himself out.

"Was he as big as that?" he asked.

"Oh, much bigger than that," said the young Frog.



Again the old one blew himself out and

asked the young one if the Ox was as big as that.



"Bigger, Father, bigger," was the reply.

So the Frog took a deep breath, and blew and blew and blew, and swelled and swelled. And then he said, "I'm sure the Ox is not as big as this." But

at that moment he burst.

Message: Self-conceit may lead to self-destruction.

Vocabularies:



1. Horns- One of the hard, usually permanent structures projecting from the head of certain mammals, such as cattle, sheep, goats, or antelopes, consisting of a bony core covered with a sheath of keratinous material.
2. Hoofs- The foot of such an animal, especially a horse.

Let's Talk:

1. What has the little frog seen?
2. How did the little frog describe the ox?
3. What did the father frog do when he learned about the big ox?
4. How did the father frog grow big?
5. What happened at the end of the story?
6. What is meant by the message of the story?
7. How does the message relate with humans'?