

“The Great Race”

Discussion Questions

1. In what way does Brer Turtle think he is faster than Brer Rabbit?

Brer Turtle thinks he is a faster thinker than Brer Rabbit.

2. What does the phrase “each one the spitting image of his father” mean?

The phrase “each one the spitting image of his father” means that the sons look like Brer Turtle.

3. Why was Brer Rabbit “too confused to speak” when he saw Brer Turtle?

Brer Rabbit was “too confused to speak” because he couldn’t understand how Brer Turtle got ahead of him in the race.

4. The author writes “Brer Rabbit couldn’t speak. He had been beaten, in more ways than one.” In what ways was Brer Rabbit beaten?

Brer Rabbit was beaten in the race and he was also beaten in his tricks. Brer Rabbit tricked Brer Turtle into racing him but it was Brer Turtle who tricked Brer Rabbit in the race.

5. How do the actions of Brer Rabbit contribute to the sequence of events in the story?

Brer Rabbit did not realize that Brer Turtle was saying he was faster thinker than Brer Rabbit. Because he did not understand this, Brer Rabbit decided to challenge Brer Turtle to a race. Brer Turtle used his fast thinking to trick Brer Rabbit. If Brer Rabbit had understood what Brer Turtle was saying in the beginning, the race would have never happened.