

# THE FRIENDLY LION

There was a lion. He lived with his friends in the African savanna. The cheetah and crocodile are his friends. The young lion loved to play with his friends. His friends loved to eat smaller and weaker animals. The young lion didn't like to do that. He liked to eat vegetables and fruits. The cheetah and the crocodile would laugh at him. They always tried to make him eat smaller animals. But the young lion just simply didn't like to eat animals.



One day, the cheetah and crocodile came to the lion's house. They started making fun of him until the poor lion started to cry. The lion was not happy with his friends. He was also not happy with himself. He decided to eat smaller animals so that his friends would stop making fun of him.



The next morning, the lion left the house to search for smaller animals. He walked for three hours but couldn't see any. He wanted to go back home when he saw a gray rabbit in front of him. He was happy he found a smaller animal at last. He happily walked towards the rabbit. He opened his mouth to eat the rabbit but the rabbit didn't try to escape. Just then, he saw that the rabbit was sleeping.

The young lion touched the rabbit with his paw. The rabbit woke up from his sleep. The rabbit was afraid! She started running away. The young lion didn't chase the rabbit. The rabbit was expecting the lion to eat her anytime soon. She knew she couldn't run faster than the lion. The rabbit looked back while running.

The lion was not chasing her. He was looking at the rabbit as she was trying to escape. The rabbit was surprised. She stopped running. She asked the lion why he hadn't eaten her. The lion told her that he doesn't eat animals. The rabbit was glad and delighted she would be safe with the lion. She asked the lion if he would be her friend. The lion thought for a long time before he said, "Yes, I will be your friend."