

International Mentoring Day

The world today seems to be more isolated than ever before, and in many cases, generations are deeply separated from one another. But there's so much to learn from someone who is just slightly ahead on the road of life! This event brings to the fore the important concept of young people engaging in a mentoring relationship with a person who is a bit older and wiser than they are. International Mentoring Day is here to encourage more people to get involved in the joyful and life-giving benefits of having, or being, a mentor!



#KID'S FAV

Popeye Day

The beloved spinach scarfing cartoon character, who has entertained generations with his wacky adventures and catchy catchphrases.



"Well, blow me down!"
"That's all I can stand's cause I can't stand's no more!"
"Shiver me timbers!"

Popeye is famous for his silly catchphrases, and today is the perfect day to throw some of them around, just for the fun of it, because it's Popeye Day!
Popeye Day is a holiday observed annually on January 17th. This day commemorates the fictional cartoon character created by Elzie Crisler Segar, who debuted on this date in 1929.
Although he wasn't the central character in his debut, his popularity quickly skyrocketed, and he soon became a cultural icon. Over the past nine-plus decades, Popeye has appeared in countless comic books, television cartoons, video games, and advertisements. He is so popular that he even made to TV Guide's 50

The History of Popeye Day

On January 17th, 1929, the character, Popeye, first appeared in the daily King Features comic strip called "Thimble Theatre." This comic strip was in its tenth year when Popeye first appeared, but the one-eyed sailor quickly became the main star of the strip.
During the 1930s, the strip became one of the most popular King Features' properties. When Elzie Crisler Segar died in 1938, Thimble Theatre was continued by several different artists and writers, including Segar's

Quick Facts About Popeye the Sailor

- Let's take a look at a few facts that we've discovered about Popeye the Sailor and other characters from the comic strip and cartoons.
- A 900-pound statue of Popeye stands in Elzie C. Segar Memorial Park in Chester, Illinois.
- In Chester, Illinois, there is a Popeye's Picnic event held the weekend following Labor Day in September.
- Many of the characters, including Popeye, were modeled after real people who lived in Chester, Illinois.

Observing Popeye Day

Anyone wishing to observe this holiday can do so by enjoying Popeye in one of the forms of media, in which he appears. Perhaps, you can enjoy him in the 1960 movie "Popeye" starring Robin Williams and Shelley Duvall, or maybe, in one of the cartoons he has appeared in. And people can always enjoy what Popeye was always munching on, a can of spinach. People



he exotic deer has a special place in the minds of many people. Here is a full fledged drama piece on the mouse deer, which is played out as children entertainment in Indonesia.

NARRATOR 1: Today, we're going to tell you three stories about Mouse Deer.
NARRATOR 2: (to NARRATOR 1, suspiciously) Wait a minute. Did you say 'Mouse Deer'?

NARRATOR 1: That's right!
NARRATOR 4: I never heard of a 'Mouse Deer' (to NARRATOR 3) Did you?
NARRATOR 3: Not me! What is he? A mouse?
NARRATOR 1: No.
NARRATOR 2: A deer?
NARRATOR 1: No.
NARRATOR 4: (accusingly) Hey, are you trying to trick us?
NARRATOR 1: No! He's a real animal!

NARRATOR 3: (skeptically) Yeah? Then, how big is he?
NARRATOR 1: About as big as a cat.
NARRATOR 2: And where does he live?
NARRATOR 1: In the jungles of Asia and Africa.
NARRATOR 4: And what does he look like?
NARRATOR 1: His legs and tail look like a deer's.
NARRATOR 2: (starting to believe) Well, all right.
NARRATOR 1: But his face and body look like a mouse's.
NARRATOR 3: (accusingly again) You're tricking us!
NARRATOR 1: It's true! That's why he's called Mouse Deer!
NARRATOR 4: (grudgingly) Well, maybe we believe you.
NARRATOR 2: Tell us some more.
NARRATOR 1: (to other NARRATORS and audience) Mouse Deer eats only plants, but lots of animals eat Mouse Deer. To stay alive, he has to be quick and smart. He also has to be tricky, just like Br'er Rabbit and Anansi, the spiderman from Africa. Mouse Deer even plays some of the same tricks.

NARRATOR 2: (to NARRATOR 1) You know what I think? I think you're the tricky one!
NARRATOR 4: Me too!
NARRATOR 3: That's right!
NARRATOR 1: No, I'm not! There are lots of stories about Mouse Deer.
NARRATOR 3: (sarcastically) And I bet you want us to believe that they're true!
NARRATOR 1: Of course, they

are! All stories are true, even if they didn't happen.

NARRATORS 2, 3, & 4: (confused, to audience) Huh?
NARRATOR 1: (to audience) Mouse Deer has his own song too, and you can help sing it. Here's how it goes.

I'm quick and smart as I can be. Try and try, but you can't catch me!

NARRATOR 1: Good! Now, we're ready to go.
NARRATOR 1: In our first story, Mouse Deer meets one of his most dangerous enemies. This story is called,

MOUSE DEER: (brightly, to audience) Mouse Deer...
NARRATOR 1: and

TIGER: (ferociously, to audience, showing claws)... Tiger.
MOUSE DEER: (to audience) Ready to sing? (drawing out the first note to help them join in)

I'm quick and smart as I can be. Try and try, but you can't catch me!

(keeps humming the tune softly to himself)
NARRATOR 1: Mouse Deer sang his song as he walked through the forest.

NARRATOR 4: He was looking for tasty fruits and roots and shoots.
NARRATOR 2: Though he was small, he was not afraid. He knew that many big animals wanted to eat him.

NARRATOR 3: But first, they had to catch him!
NARRATOR 1: Then, he heard something.

TIGER: Rowr!
MOUSE DEER: (gasps)
NARRATOR 4: There was Tiger!

TIGER: (sounding sinister) Hello, Mouse Deer. I was just getting hungry. Now, you can be my lunch.
NARRATOR 2: Mouse Deer didn't want to be lunch. He looked around and thought fast.

NARRATOR 3: He saw a mud puddle.
MOUSE DEER: (makes a face like he's thinking hard, then brightens, turns to TIGER) I'm sorry, Tiger. I can't be your lunch. The King has ordered me to guard his pudding.

TIGER: (uncertainly) His pudding?
MOUSE DEER: (pointing) Yes. There it is.
NARRATOR 1: Mouse Deer pointed to the mud puddle.

MOUSE DEER: It has the best taste in the world. The King doesn't want anyone else to eat it.
NARRATOR 4: Tiger looked longingly at the puddle.

TIGER: (struggling with himself, knowing he shouldn't ask but wanting it badly) I would like to taste the King's pudding.
MOUSE DEER: Oh, no, Tiger! The King would be very angry.

TIGER: (pleading) Just one little taste, Mouse Deer! The King will never know.
MOUSE DEER: Well, all right, Tiger. But first, let me run far away.

PART:2



so that no one will blame me.
TIGER: All right, Mouse Deer, you can go now.
NARRATOR 2: Mouse Deer ran quickly out of sight.

TIGER: (delightedly, to audience) Imagine! The King's pudding!
NARRATOR 3: He took a big mouthful.
TIGER: (puts a handful in his mouth, freezes in surprise, then makes a horrible face, and spits the mud out towards the audience) Phooey!

NARRATOR 3: He spit it out.
TIGER: Yuck! Ugh! Bleck! That's no pudding. That's mud!
NARRATOR 1: Tiger ran through the forest.

TIGER: Rowr!
NARRATOR 4: He caught up with Mouse Deer.
MOUSE DEER: (gasps)
TIGER: (enraged) Mouse Deer, you tricked me once. You tricked me twice. But now, you will be my lunch!

NARRATOR 2: Mouse Deer looked around and thought fast.
NARRATOR 3: He saw a wasp nest in a tree.
MOUSE DEER: (thinks hard, then brightens) I'm sorry, Tiger. I can't be your lunch. The King has ordered me to guard his drum.

TIGER: His drum?
MOUSE DEER: (pointing) Yes. There it is.
NARRATOR 1: Mouse Deer pointed to the wasp nest.

MOUSE DEER: It has the best sound in the world. The King doesn't want anyone else to hit it.
TIGER: (struggling with himself) I would like to hit the King's drum.

MOUSE DEER: Oh, no, Tiger! The King would be very angry.
TIGER: Just one little hit, Mouse Deer! The King will never know.
MOUSE DEER: Well, all right, Tiger. But first, let me run far away, so that no one will blame me.

TIGER: All right, Mouse Deer, you can go now.
NARRATOR 4: Mouse Deer ran quickly out of sight.
TIGER: (to audience) Imagine! The King's drum!

NARRATOR 2: He reached up and hit it.
NARRATOR 3: Pow.
ALL NARRATORS: BZZZZZZZZZZZ. (Each NARRATOR

keeps buzzing when not speaking.)
NARRATOR 1: The wasps all flew out. They started to sting Tiger.
TIGER: Ouch! Ooch! Eech! That's no drum. That's a wasp nest!

NARRATOR 4: Tiger ran away. But the wasps only followed him!
TIGER: Ouch! Ooch! Eech!
NARRATOR 2: Tiger came to a stream. He jumped in, splash, and stayed underwater as long as he could.

NARRATOR 3: At last, the wasps went away.
ALL NARRATORS: (fade out with buzzing)
NARRATOR 1: Then, Tiger jumped out.

TIGER: Rowr!
NARRATOR 4: He ran through the forest till he found Mouse Deer.
MOUSE DEER: (gasps)
TIGER: (enraged) Mouse Deer, you tricked me once. You tricked me twice. But now, you will be my lunch!

NARRATOR 2: Mouse Deer looked around and thought fast.
NARRATOR 3: He saw a cobra! The giant snake was coiled asleep on the ground.

MOUSE DEER: (thinks hard, then brightens) I'm sorry, Tiger. I can't be your lunch. The King has ordered me to guard his belt.
TIGER: His belt?
MOUSE DEER: (pointing) Yes. There it is.

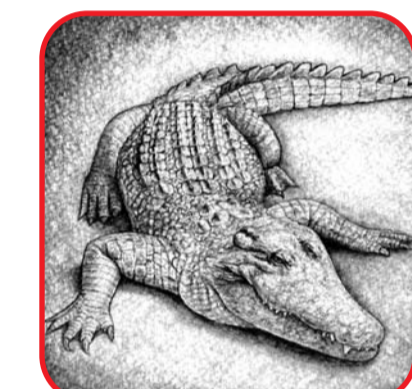
NARRATOR 1: Mouse Deer pointed to the cobra.
MOUSE DEER: It's the best belt in the world. The King doesn't want anyone else to wear it.

TIGER: (struggling with himself) I would like to wear the King's belt.
MOUSE DEER: Oh, no, Tiger! The King would be very angry.
TIGER: Just one moment, Mouse Deer! The King will never know.

MOUSE DEER: Well, all right, Tiger. But first, let me run far away, so that no one will blame me.
TIGER: All right, Mouse Deer, you can go now.

NARRATOR 4: Mouse Deer ran quickly out of sight.
TIGER: (to audience) Imagine! The King's belt!
NARRATOR 2: He started to wrap it around himself. The cobra woke up.

NARRATOR 3: Ssssssssssss.



I'm quick and smart as I can be Try and try, but you can't catch me!

NARRATOR 1: (to other NARRATORS and audience) Mouse Deer eats only plants, but lots of animals eat Mouse Deer. To stay alive, he has to be quick and smart. He also has to be tricky, just like Br'er Rabbit and Anansi, the spiderman from Africa. Mouse Deer even plays some of the same tricks.

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(keeps hissing)
NARRATOR 1: It didn't wait for Tiger to finish wrapping.
NARRATOR 4: It wrapped itself around Tiger.

NARRATOR 2: Then, it squeezed him and bit him.
NARRATOR 3: Ssttt! Sssssssssss. (keeps hissing)
TIGER: Ooh! Ow! Yow! That's no belt. That's a cobra! (into the distance) Help! Mouse Deer! Help!

NARRATOR 3: (fades out with hissing)
NARRATOR 1: But Mouse Deer was far away.
NARRATOR 4: And as he went, he sang his song.

MOUSE DEER: (to audience) *I'm quick and smart as I can be. Try and try, but you can't catch me!*

NARRATOR 1: In our second story, Mouse Deer meets another one of his most dangerous enemies. This story is called,

MOUSE DEER: (brightly, to audience) Mouse Deer...
NARRATOR 1: and
CROCODILE: (menacingly, to audience, in low, growly voice)... Crocodile.

NARRATOR 1: One day, Mouse Deer went down to the river.
NARRATOR 4: He wanted to take a drink.

NARRATOR 2: But he knew Crocodile might be waiting underwater to eat him.
NARRATOR 3: Mouse Deer had an idea. He said out loud,
MOUSE DEER: (to himself, but loud and clear so that CROCODILE hears) I wonder if the water's warm. I'll put in my leg and find out. (freezes till NARRATOR 1 speaks again)

NARRATOR 4: A rough voice said,
CROCODILE: (low and growly) I'm really just a log.
NARRATOR 2: Mouse Deer laughed.

MOUSE DEER: (laughs) Silly Crocodile! Do you think a log can talk?
NARRATOR 3: And off he ran again!

NARRATOR 1: Another day, Mouse Deer wanted to cross the river.
NARRATOR 2: Lion!
NARRATOR 1: No.
NARRATOR 4: Tyranosaurus!
NARRATOR 1: No! This one is called,

MOUSE DEER: (brightly, to audience) Mouse Deer...
NARRATOR 1: and
FARMER: (pleasantly, to audience)... Farmer.
NARRATORS 2, 3, & 4: (confused, to audience) Huh?

NARRATOR 2: (to NARRATOR 1 and others) I don't believe this!
NARRATOR 4: Mouse Deer called for Crocodile?
NARRATOR 3: How dumb can he get!

NARRATOR 1: (to other NARRATORS and audience) But then, Crocodile rose from the water.
CROCODILE: (low and growly) Hello, Mouse Deer. Have you come to be my breakfast?
MOUSE DEER: Not today, Crocodile. I have orders from the King. He wants me to count all the crocodiles.

CROCODILE: (very impressed) The King! Tell us what to do.
MOUSE DEER: You must line up from this side of the river to the other side.
NARRATOR 4: Crocodile got all his friends and family! They lined up across the river.

NARRATOR 2: Mouse Deer jumped onto Crocodile's back.
MOUSE DEER: One.
NARRATOR 3: He jumped onto the next crocodile.
MOUSE DEER: Two.
NARRATOR 1: And the next.
MOUSE DEER: Three.
NARRATOR 4: Mouse Deer kept jumping till he jumped off...
NARRATOR 2: on the other side of the river.

CROCODILE: (calling across the river) How many are there?
MOUSE DEER: (calling back) Just enough! And all silly!
NARRATOR 3: Then, he went off singing his song.
MOUSE DEER: (to audience) *I'm quick and smart as I can be. Try and try, but you can't catch me!*

NARRATOR 1: In our last story, Mouse Deer meets his most dangerous enemy of all. (to other NARRATORS) Can you guess who it is?
NARRATOR 3: Cobra!
NARRATOR 1: No.
NARRATOR 2: Lion!
NARRATOR 4: Tyranosaurus!
NARRATOR 1: No! This one is called,

had an idea. He called out.
MOUSE DEER: (brightly) Crocodile! (freezes till NARRATOR 1 speaks again)
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NARRATOR 1: And the next.
MOUSE DEER: Three.
NARRATOR 4: Mouse Deer kept jumping till he jumped off...
NARRATOR 2: on the other side of the river.

NARRATOR 1: A few days passed. Mouse Deer kept thinking about all those vegetables.
NARRATOR 4: One day, he went back to the edge of the forest.

MOUSE DEER: (to himself) Mmmm. Tasty gourd! Scrumptious sweet potatoes!
NARRATOR 2: Then, he saw something new.
NARRATOR 3: It looked like a man. But its head was a coconut, and its body was rubber.

MOUSE DEER: A scarecrow! That silly Farmer. Does he think he can scare me with that? I'll show him how scared I am!
NARRATOR 1: Mouse Deer marched up to the scarecrow. He gave it a big kick.

MOUSE DEER: Take this! ('kicks' it with one hand, as a hood)
NARRATOR 4: But his leg stuck to the scarecrow. The scarecrow was covered with sticky sap from a rubber tree!

MOUSE DEER: Let me go! (grunts as he struggles)
NARRATOR 2: He pulled and he pulled. Then, he pushed with his other front leg.
MOUSE DEER: (grunts as he pushes forward with other hand/hood)

NARRATOR 3: That leg stuck too.
MOUSE DEER: Turn me loose! (grunts as he struggles)
NARRATOR 1: He pulled and he pulled. Then, he pushed with his two back legs.

MOUSE DEER: (grunts as he hops forward on both feet/hooves)
NARRATOR 4: They stuck too.
MOUSE DEER: PUT ME DOWN! (grunts as he struggles)
NARRATOR 2: He pulled and he pushed and he pulled and he pushed.

NARRATOR 3: But Mouse Deer was trapped.
MOUSE DEER: (stops and pants)
NARRATOR 1: Then, he saw Farmer.

MOUSE DEER: (gasps)
NARRATOR 1: Mouse Deer thought fast.
MOUSE DEER: (thinks hard, then looks shocked and scared)

NARRATOR 4: But he didn't have any ideas!
FARMER: (pleasantly) Well, well. How nice of you to come back.
NARRATOR 4: He loved the vegetables in Farmer's garden.
NARRATOR 2: One day, Mouse Deer went to the edge of the forest.

NARRATOR 3: He looked out at row after row of vegetables.
MOUSE DEER: (to himself) Mmmm. Juicy cucumbers! Yummy yams!
NARRATOR 1: He started into the garden.

MOUSE DEER: (in pain and shock, looking at his leg) Oh!
NARRATOR 4: His leg was caught in a snare!
NARRATOR 2: Mouse Deer pulled and pulled.
NARRATOR 3: But he could not get away.

MOUSE DEER: Oh, no! Farmer will have me for dinner!
NARRATOR 1: Then, he saw Farmer coming. Mouse Deer thought fast.

MOUSE DEER: (makes a face like he's thinking hard, then brightens)
NARRATOR 4: He lay on the ground and made his body stiff.
FARMER: (pleasantly, to himself) Well, well. Look what I caught. A mouse deer! (looks closer) But he looks dead.

NARRATOR 2: Farmer pushed him with his foot.
NARRATOR 3: Mouse Deer didn't move.
FARMER: Maybe, he's been dead a long time. Too bad! I guess we can't eat him.

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