Play 1: Watch Your Tongue

Nar 1: We communicate our ideas and stories by talking and using words. Today we want to tell you two stories concerned with words and tongues. The first of these stories concerns a girl who says cruel and malicious things, whilst the other story is an old Aesops fable about a king.

Nar 2: There is a very old saying that “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” If you think about this saying very carefully you may decide that it is not true after all. Words can hurt you and make you feel very sad indeed. They frequently do a lot of harm.

Nar 3: Many years ago there was a girl called Tina Talkalot. She lived in a little village called Dovedale. Now Tina was in the habit of saying really nasty things about others and gave no thoughts to their feelings. Let’s visit Dovedale and see what she is up to.

Vicky: Hello Tina I haven’t seen you round here for a while.

Tina: No, I have been shopping for some new clothes in the Kaminski Shopping Mall. I went to Porothy Derkins and bought a lovely new pair of trousers, do you like them?

Vicky: Oh yes they are nice they suit you so well you look like a super star.

Tina: Well of course they suit me; they look better on my legs than they do on your skinny ones. Oh well must be going.

Vicky: Oh how dare you Tina Talkalot how cruel! (Tina walks away and bumps into Colin with his arm in a sling.)

Colin: Hi Tina. Haven’t seen you for a while how are things going then?

Tina: Well by the looks of you, things are going better for me. What happened to your arm Colin?

Colin: Oh, I was playing tiddly winks and I fell of my chair and broke my arm.

Tina: Well you shouldn’t be so clumsy. I’m the best player in our school squad and never fall off chairs. Goodbye Mr Clumsy head ha ha!! (Colin walks away looking very sad!)

Nar 4: One day the wise old woman of the village named Marjorie Droops summoned Tina to talk to her about the harm she had done by using cruel words and telling mis truths.
**Marjorie:** Tina Talkalot come here you nasty young lady. I want to have a little talk about all the horrible things you have been saying to the good people of this village. I have just had Vicky in tears on her mobile phone. She’s crying so much that she has made the phone go rusty. Now what is going on then?

**Tina:** Er excuse me, are you talking about moi? I think you must have the wrong good-looking girl. I think you want to be seeing Mrs Rolly Polly at No 56, Beast field Road. Do you know she’s just had double-glazing installed and hasn’t paid the bill yet, disgusting.

**Marjorie:** Stop that at once, there you go again gossiping and telling fibs. What am I going to do with you?

**Tina:** Well anyway. It might be true, I’ve done nothing wrong as far as I can see.

**Marjorie:** Well you can’t see mush further than your big fat nose!! You chatterbox. Now I want you to make up for your nasty gossip and I want you to place a crisp packet on every doorstep in this village of ours.

**Tina:** A crisp packet on every doorstep? Are you bonkers or just a bit ga ga? Oh well anything to keep you happy. Er, have you got some crisp packets then? I can’t say I keep them down my new trousers they would itch my legs, which are so wonderful and as beautiful as Naomi Campbell.

**Marjorie:** Oh you are rude and cheeky. Here take these and do as I say. Be off with you.

**Nar 5:** Tina did as she was told. She placed a crisp packet on each and every doorstep. That night a strong wind blew through the roads and streets of Dovedale causing the crisp packets to fly all over the place. (Sound effects - children can spin around taking packets all over the place!)

**Nar 6:** The next day Tina met up with Marjorie. Tina was amazed at what the wise old woman asked her to do next.

**Marjorie:** Well good morning Tina. Now do you remember all those crisp packets you placed out last night (Tina nods)? Now I want you to gather all of them up and bring them to me so that we can cut out the schoolbook voucher tokens.

**Tina:** But I can’t, a strong wind blew them all over the place and they are scattered for miles. It’s just an impossible job. Not even Mr Matteson the village Premises officer could do that.

**Marjorie:** Scattered everywhere are they? I thought as much. Did you know that the same thing happens with the words you speak? If you say something nasty and horrible about someone, those words spread and become rumours. They can then hurt that person even more. Now use your words with great care from now on young lady. Oh and as an extra punishment you can cut out the all the book voucher tokens and give them to Mrs Hooper the village school Headmistress.

**Nar 7:** Due to this clever trick TinaTalkalot, with the uncontrollable tongue saw what harm her idle words could do. From that day on she decided to think hard before she spoke to anyone. We hope that you never become a TINA TALKALOT!!
**Play 2 “Aesops Food for Thought”**

**Nar 8:** Our second story is called “Aesops Food for Thought”. We all use our tongues to speak. Many butchers sell a type of cold meat called tongue. This story, which is about Aesop who is famous for his Fables, is concerned with tongue.

**Nar 9:** Aesop was slave in Ancient Greece. He was a wise and clever man. There is a story that one day his Queen asked him to prepare a meal of all the most beautiful things he could imagine.

**Queen:** Aesop come here my good man. Now I want you to prepare a grand meal of all the most beautiful things that you can imagine. You may use as much of my gold coins as you want.

**Aesop:** Very well my Queen. I shall visit the local market place and view the food on display there.

(Servants *get busy setting up a pretty table with food on and flowers etc*)

**Nar 10:** After a few hours the court servants had prepared the Queen’s banquet table. They hurried and scurried to ensure all was perfect. When the table was set the Queen sat at it ,,,,,, however!

**Queen:** What is this Aesop? Why on earth is my dining table only full of TONGUE and nothing else? You had better have a jolly good explanation or else.

**Aesop:** I can explain your majesty. I did it because tongues are responsible for many beautiful, kind and pleasing words that make many people happy.

**Queen:** Now I see Aesop, how clever of you and witty too. Now please clear my dining table and this time prepare me a meal of all the bad things that you can imagine. You can still use my gold coins. Be off and let’s see what you can create this time.

**Nar 11** Aesop followed his Queens instruction. When the time came for the second meal and the Queen sat down at her table, her face went as red as a beetroot.

**Queen:** Is this some kind of a silly joke Aesop? For if it is, you will pay dearly with your life. My plate is full of TONGUE AGAIN!! You had better have a good explanation. I am not amused at all.

**Aesop:** My Queen it is no joke! I did it because not only are tongues responsible for kind words and happiness, they can also utter bad words, unkind thoughts and lies and so be a great source of unhappiness and sadness.

**Queen:** What a clever fellow you are. I apologise for using harsh words towards you and will remember your clever lesson.
Nar 12: Aesop suggested that words can make people happy, but that they can make people sad if used in the wrong way. We end our assembly today with a short poem written by children of this class.

**Word Poem**

Words are very important things:  
Words can make you feel happy,  
Words can make you feel sad,  
Words can make you full of glee,  
And words can make you feel bad.  
Be careful how you use your words  
Think before you speak,  
Some words that you think are funny  
Could actually be full of cheek!

Nar 12: We hope you have enjoyed our assembly today and hope that you will use your words wisely. Thankyou for listening to us today.

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