

海外少年儿童汉语读物
OVERSEAS CHINESE CHILDREN'S READERS



中华成语故事

CHINESE IDIOMS AND THEIR STORIES

BILINGUAL IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH 中英对照 注音彩图
WITH PINYIN PHONETIC SYMBOLS AND COLOR ILLUSTRATIONS

中国侨都编辑部 主编
EDITED BY THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF CHINA OVERSEAS



广东省出版集团



新世纪出版社

H175.4
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华人中心

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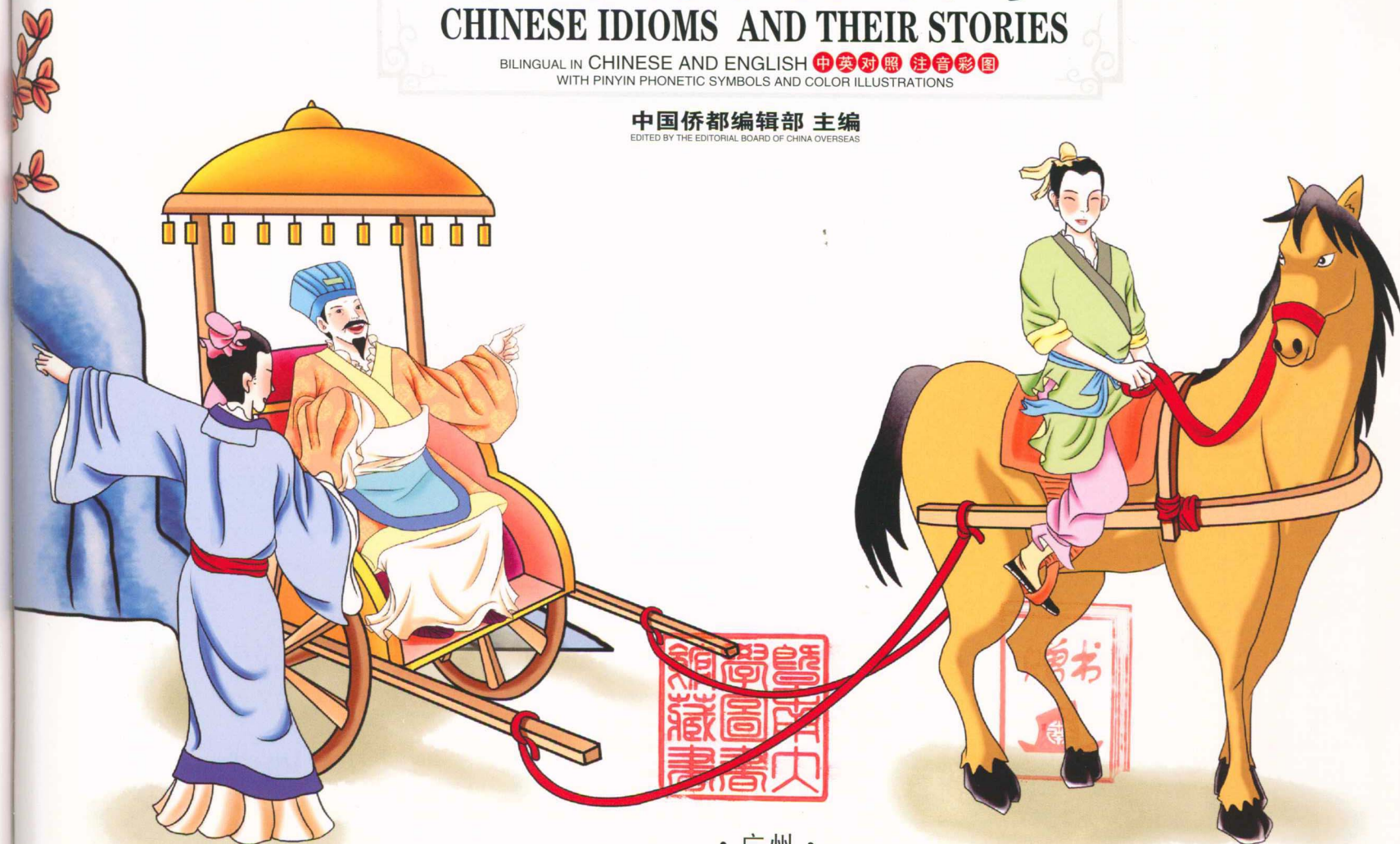
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图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

海外少年儿童汉语读物 / 中国侨都编辑部主编. —广州:
新世纪出版社, 2009.10
ISBN 978-7-5405-4088-3

I. 海… II. 中… III. 汉语—对外汉语教学—教学参考资料 IV. H195.4

中国版本图书馆CPI数据核字 (2009) 第173695号

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总 策 划: 彭晓利
出 版 人: 陈锐军
责任编辑: 王小斌
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编 选: 余成泽
特约编辑: 陆永富
封面设计: 陆永富
插 图: 徐悦梅
翻 译: 陈玉麟

出版发行: 新世纪出版社
印 刷: 广州市快美印务有限公司
开 本: 889毫米X1194毫米 16开
印 张: 23
字 数: 460千字
版 次: 2009年10月第1版
印 次: 2009年10月第1次印刷
书 号: ISBN 978-7-5405-4088-3
定 价: 148.00元 (共5册)

质量监督电话: (020) 83787655

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中西交汇 传承文明

As east and west interflow civilization is carried on

李 巍
Li Wei



“床前明月光，疑是地上霜。举头望明月，低头思故乡。”这首千古传唱的唐诗，是博大精深的中华民族传统文化源远流长的极佳象征，她是中华民族的灵魂。黑眼睛、黄皮肤的中华儿女，无论身处世界任何角落，中华文化永远是他们心中的根。

祖籍江门五邑的海外乡亲近400万人，遍布世界107个国家和地区。他们身居海外，心系故土，在接受西方文化熏陶的同时，依然对中华文化一往情深。他们也为中华文化融入世界和西方文化引入中国作出了巨大的贡献。

应众多海外乡亲的意愿，为便于海外华侨华人对中华文化的传承、对侨乡故土的认知，为促进中外多元文化的进一步交流，江门市外事侨务局会同江门市文化广电新闻出版局、江门市对外文化交流协会、中国侨都编辑部联合筹划这套系列丛书，定名为《海外少年儿童汉语读物》，该书采用中英文对照、图文并茂的方式，为海外华人提供适用的中华文化经典读物。

该丛书的出版，是中外文化交流的结晶，更是侨乡文化的成果。我衷心希望，中华文化在世界多元文化的融汇中不断发展，并祝《海外少年儿童汉语读物》系列丛书这棵幼苗沐浴着中西文化的雨露茁壮成长！

(李 巍：现任全国政协常委、江门市人民政府副市长)

“So bright a gleam on the foot of my bed—Could there have been a frost already? Lifting myself to look, I found that it was moonlight. Sinking back again, I thought suddenly of home.”

This Tang poem, which has been recited by generations after generations, bespeaking the long-reaching source of the expansive and profound traditional Chinese culture, is a sparkling reflection of the soul of the Chinese nation. All sons and daughters of the Chinese nation, with black eyes and yellow skin, no matter where on earth they are, always keep in their mind the consciousness of their roots of Chinese culture.

Nearly 4 million overseas Chinese trace their ancestry to the Jiangmen Wuyi area. Their residency spreads out to 107 countries and regions all over the world. Though they may live far away, there is always a tie that binds their heart to their homeland. While accepting western cultures, deep down they also feel an unalienable attachment for Chinese culture. They have made great contributions in introducing Chinese culture into the global world, as well as western cultures into China.

In response to the wishes of many compatriots living overseas, to provide a ready access for overseas Chinese to Chinese culture, to improve their knowledge of their ancestral land, and to promote the interflow between Chinese culture and foreign cultures in their variegated forms, a series of books are to be published under the cover title of “Overseas Chinese Children's Readers”. The series is sponsored by the Jiangmen Bureau for Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs, and co-edited and published by the Jiangmen Bureau for Culture, Broadcasting, Press and Publication, the Jiangmen Association for External Cultural Exchange, and the Editorial Board of *China Overseas*. The books will come out in original Chinese text coupled with English explanation, and will all be richly illustrated. It is hoped they will serve as suitable extracurricular reading for overseas Chinese.

The publication of the above-mentioned series is itself a product of the cultural exchange between Chinese and foreign cultures, as well as a fruit of culture that has been fructified from the homeland of overseas Chinese. I sincerely hope that the Chinese culture will continue to grow and develop amidst the merge of the pluralistic cultures of the world. I also hope that the newly sprouted series will grow up strong as it will continuously be nurtured by the rain and dew of Chinese as well as western cultures.



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shǒu zhū dài tù 守株待兔

gǔ shí hòu , yǒu gè zhòng tián
古 时 候 ， 有 个 种 田
rén 。 yì tiān , tā zhèng zài tián lǐ
人 。 一 天 ， 他 正 在 田 里
gàn huó 。 tū rán , cóng yuǎn chù pǎo
干 活 。 突 然 ， 从 远 处 跑
lái yì zhī tù zǐ 。 zhè zhī tù zǐ
来 一 只 兔 子 。 这 只 兔 子
pǎo de yòu jí yòu kuài , měng de zhuàng
跑 得 又 急 又 快 ， 猛 地 撞
zài tián biān de dà shù zhuāng shàng , yí
在 田 边 的 大 树 桩 上 ， 一
xià zǐ bǎ bó zi zhuàng duàn le , dāng
下 子 把 脖 子 撞 断 了 ， 当
chǎng dǎo dì sǐ wáng 。 nóng fū jiàn zhuàng ,
场 倒 地 死 亡 。 农 夫 见 状 ，
gāo gāo xìng xìng de pǎo guò qù , háo
高 高 兴 兴 地 跑 过 去 ， 毫
bù fèi lì jiù jiǎn le zhè zhī tù zǐ
不 费 力 就 捡 了 这 只 兔 子
huí jiā 。
回 家 。



成语解释

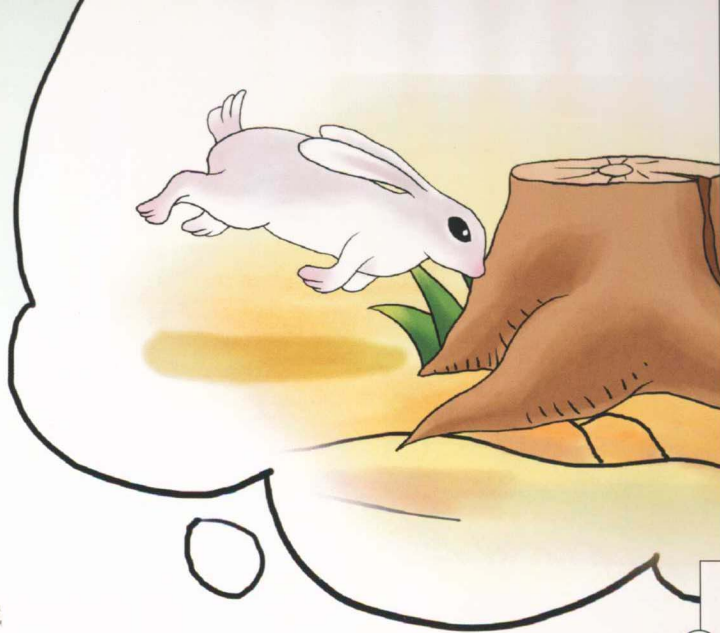
这则成语指守在树桩旁边等着兔子来撞死，不想通过自己的努力，就妄想侥幸得到意外收获。

Explanation

A man sits and waits by a tree stump, dreaming of hares to come and bump against the stump. This idiom implies those who just wait for a stroke of luck instead of making any efforts to get what they need.



cóng cǐ , zhè gè nóng fū jiù bú gàn
从 此 , 这 个 农 夫 就 不 干
huó le , yì tiān dào wǎn shǒu zài nà kē dà
活 了 , 一 天 到 晚 守 在 那 棵 大
shù zhuāng páng , děng zhe yǒu tù zǐ zài lái zhuàng
树 桩 旁 , 等 着 有 兔 子 再 来 撞
sǐ 。 tā děng yā děng yā , yì zhí děng dào
死 。 他 等 呀 等 呀 , 一 直 等 到
tián lǐ dōu zhǎng mǎn le yě cǎo , què lián tù
田 里 都 长 满 了 野 草 , 却 连 兔
zi de yǐng zi yě méi yǒu jiàn dào 。
子 的 影 子 也 没 有 见 到 。



Waiting by a stump for a careless hare

Once upon a time a farmer had a field with a large stump on its edge. One day when the farmer was working in the field, he saw a hare bump into the stump, break its neck and die instantly. The farmer took the hare home and cooked himself a delicious meal. From then on, he gave up farming, and just sat by the stump waiting for another hare to come and run into it. He waited and waited, day after day, but no more hare came until one day his field was finally overgrown with weed.

成语启迪

通过这个故事, 我们知道任何劳动成果都是要经过自己的努力得到的, 不是靠侥幸就可以获得的。

Moral

The story tells us that we should not wait for unexpected gains by trusting to chance and luck. That is, we should not hope to gain without hard work.





bá miáo zhù zhǎng 拔 苗 助 长

古 代 有 一 个 农 夫 , 是 个 急 性
子 。 他 总 是 想 : 怎 么 才 能 帮 助 禾
苗 长 高 ? 后 来 , 他 终 于 想 出 了 一
个 办 法 。 马 上 跑 到 田 里 , 把 禾 苗
一 棵 一 棵 地 往 高 里 拔 。 这 时 , 他
心 里 非 常 高 兴 , 以 为 这 办 法 非
常 高 明 。 他 回 家 之 后 , 把 这 件
事 告 诉 他 的 家 人 。 他 的 儿 子 听



中华成语故事
CHINESE IDIOMS AND THEIR STORIES

拔苗助长
Helping seedlings to grow by pulling them up



成语解释

这则成语原意是指把禾苗拔起来帮助它们成长。用来比喻不顾事物的本来的生长规律，凭自己愿望做事，急于求成，反倒把事情办糟了。

Explanation

The original idea of this idiom is: Pulling up the seedlings to help them grow faster. It is used to describe the behavior of those who are too eager to get something done only to make it worse.



le bù míng bái shì zěn me huí shì jí máng pǎo dào tián lǐ
了 不 明 白 是 怎 么 回 事 ， 急 忙 跑 到 田 里
qù kàn zāo le tián lǐ de hé miáo quán dōu kū sǐ le
去 看 ， 糟 了 ！ 田 里 的 禾 苗 全 都 枯 死 了 。

Helping seedlings to grow by pulling them up

Once upon a time, an old farmer planted a plot of rice. He thought those shoots in his fields were not growing fast enough and wanted to help them. So he pulled every shoot up. He felt very tired but very satisfied. Then he went home and told his family. His son was shocked and went to the fields to have a look. All the pulled-up young plants had died.



成语启迪

这个故事告诉我们，要清楚世间万事万物都有自己的发展规律，不能随意更改。不按照客观规律办事，急于求成，事情就办不好。

Moral

This story tells us that everything follows its natural course. Impatience for success only makes things worse.

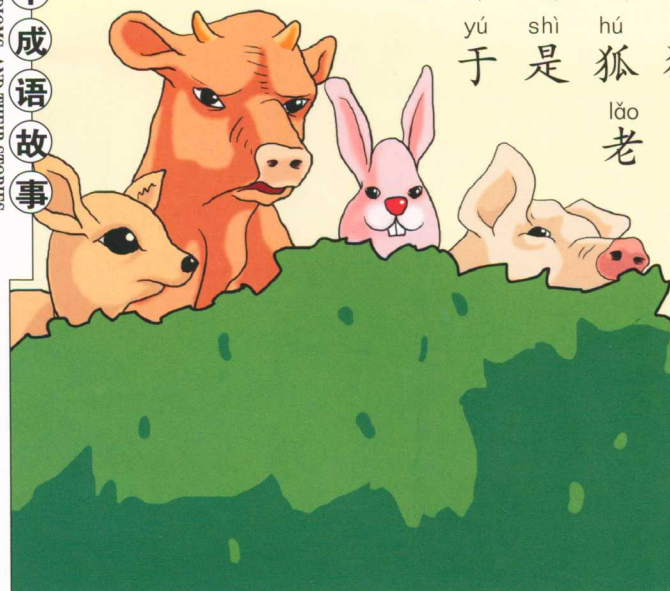
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狐假虎威

一只饥饿的老虎，抓到了一只狐狸，准备把它吃掉。狐狸非常狡猾，它对老虎说：“我是天帝派来主管大小野兽的。如果你不相信，咱们可以当场试试。”老虎心想，真有这么回事吗？那就非看看不可。如果不是，再吃它也不晚。于是狐狸昂着头，大模大样地走在前边。老虎紧紧地跟在它的后面，瞪着两只大眼睛看。果然，它们每到一处地方，那里的野兽一见就



成语解释

这则成语原指狐狸假借老虎的威势。人们往往用这成语形容那些借着别人的威势来欺压弱小的行为。

Explanation

This idiom is about the fox relying on the tiger's power. This idiom is often cited to describe those relying on others' power and influence to bully the weak.





xià de pīn mìng de táo pǎo 。 lǎo hǔ
吓 得 拼 命 地 逃 跑 。 老 虎
xìn yǐ wéi zhēn , tā nǎ lǐ zhī dào
信 以 为 真 , 它 哪 里 知 道
yě shòu hài pà de qí shí shì tā zì
野 兽 害 怕 的 其 实 是 它 自
jǐ ne 己 呢 !

The fox borrowing the power of the tiger

A hungry tiger caught a fox and was about to eat it. The fox was very sly. It said to the tiger: "You must not eat me. I am sent by God to rule the animals. If you don't believe me, just follow me and have a look." The tiger said to himself, "Really? I must have a look. It's not too late to eat the fox if it isn't true." So with its head held high, the fox walked haughtily in front with the tiger following closely behind, its eyes opened wide. The fox was right: All the animals ran away wherever they went. The tiger believed the fox; he didn't know what the animals feared was really himself!

成语启迪

老虎已经中了狐狸的计，还浑然不知，真的是愚蠢。但是狐狸这种依仗老虎的凶猛威吓弱小动物的行为，是非常不受欢迎的。

Moral

The tiger is fooled by the fox and doesn't know it at all. But the fox's tactic of relying on others' power to bully and frighten others won't go far.





画蛇添足

gǔ shí hòu , yǒu yì jiā rén jì guò le zǔ xiān , shǎng gěi shǒu xià jǐ
古时候，有一家人祭过了祖先，赏给手下几
gè bàn shì de rén yì hú jiǔ 。 yì hú jiǔ shí zài tài shǎo , dà jiā dōu hē ,
个办事的人一壶酒。一壶酒实在太少，大家都喝，
shuí yě hē bú tòng kuài , bù rú gān cuì ràng yí gè rén hē 。 yǒu rén biàn tí
谁也喝不痛快，不如干脆让一个人喝。有人便提
yì : “ zán men měi rén jiù dì huà yì tiáo shé , shuí
议：“咱们每人就画一条蛇，谁
xiān huà hǎo , shuí jiù hē zhè hú jiǔ 。 ” dà jiā dōu
先画好，谁就喝这壶酒。”大家都
zàn chéng le 。 yú shì jiù zài dì shàng huà qǐ lái 。 yǒu
赞成了。于是就在地画起来。有
yí gè rén xiān huà hǎo le , tā yí
一个人先画好了，他一
kàn bié rén dōu hái zài dī zhe tóu
看别人都还在低着头
huà , jiù mài nòng yí xià běn shì ,
画，就卖弄一下本事，
gěi shé huà shàng sì zhī jiǎo 。 zhè
给蛇画上四只脚。这



成语解释

这个成语的意思是说在画好的蛇身上添上脚。比喻做了多余的事，反而于无补，徒劳无功。

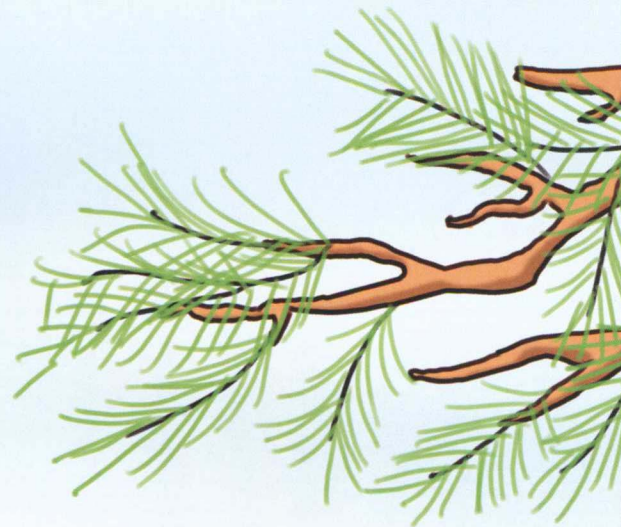


Explanation

Adding feet to a snake in a drawing is making a vain and futile effort..



shí , lìng yí gè rén huà hǎo le shé , jiù ná qǐ
jiǔ hú shuō : “ shé shì méi yǒu jiǎo de , nǐ gěi
shé huà shàng jiǎo , nà hái jiào shé ma ? ” shuō wán ,
tā jiù bǎ jiǔ hē xià qù le 。
时 , 另 一 个 人 画 好 了 蛇 , 就 拿 起
酒 壶 说 : “ 蛇 是 没 有 脚 的 , 你 给
蛇 画 上 脚 , 那 还 叫 蛇 吗 ? ” 说 完 ,
他 就 把 酒 喝 下 去 了 。



Drawing a snake and adding feet to it

In the ancient time, a family meant to give as an award a pot of wine to those who had helped at the ancestor memorial ceremony. One man said, “We have only one pot of wine. It's not enough to go around. It would be better for one to have a hearty drink”. So he proposed: “Let's decide who'll have the wine by drawing a snake on the ground. Whoever finishes first will have the wine.” One man finished the snake first. He was about to drink the wine when he saw the others were still busy drawing. He then decided to add four legs to the snake he had drawn. In the meantime, another man finished drawing his snake, took up the wine and drank it up, saying, “Snakes do not have legs ,and you add legs to your snake. Is that still a snake?”

成语启迪

这个成语故事告诉我们，本来已经是恰到好处的事，却要做出多余的事情来，这样只会于是无补。所以，我们在做事的时候就要把握好分寸，切忌“画蛇添足”。

Moral

This story tells us doing more than necessary will do more harm than good. Therefore, we must not do more than what is just right for the job and never “draw a snake and then add legs to it.”





wáng yáng bǔ láo 亡羊补牢

cóng qián , yǒu yí gè nóng fū , jiā lǐ yǎng le yì qún yáng 。 yì tiān
从 前 ， 有 一 个 农 夫 ， 家 里 养 了 一 群 羊 。 一 天
zǎo shàng , xià qǐ dà yǔ , yǔ shuǐ bǎ yáng juàn chōng chū le yí gè dà dòng 。
早 上 ， 下 起 大 雨 ， 雨 水 把 羊 圈 冲 出 了 一 个 大 洞 。
yǔ tíng le , lín jū chū lái , kàn dào nóng fū jiā de yáng juàn
雨 停 了 ， 邻 居 出 来 ， 看 到 农 夫 家 的 羊 圈
chuān le gè dòng jiù gào sù nóng fū kuài diǎn bǔ shàng , yào
穿 了 个 洞 就 告 诉 农 夫 快 点 补 上 ， 要
bù rán jiù huì yǒu láng jìn lái bǎ yáng chī le 。
不 然 就 会 有 狼 进 来 把 羊 吃 了 。
kě shì , nóng fū méi tīng lín jū quàn gào 。
可 是 ， 农 夫 没 听 邻 居 劝 告 。
nóng fū xiǎng : “ wǒ míng tiān zài bǔ ba . ”
农 夫 想 ： “ 我 明 天 再 补 吧 。 ”
dì èr tiān zǎo shàng nóng fū qù kàn yáng , tā
第 二 天 早 上 农 夫 去 看 羊 ， 他
fā xiàn yáng shǎo le yì zhī 。 nóng fū zhǎo le
发 现 羊 少 了 一 只 。 农 夫 找 了
bàn tiān dōu méi yǒu zhǎo dào yáng , zhǐ kàn dào
半 天 都 没 有 找 到 羊 ， 只 看 到



中华成语故事

CHINESE IDIOMS AND THEIR STORIES

亡羊补牢
Mending the sheepfold after the sheep were lost

成语解释

这个成语原指羊丢失了再去修补羊圈，还不算晚。比喻出了问题以后想办法补救，免得再受损失。

Explanation

This idiom points out that it's not too late to mend the fence after a sheep was lost. You should try to correct the mistakes and resolve the problems to prevent further loss.





dì shàng de xiě nóng fū zhī dào yáng shì bèi láng
地 上 的 血 。 农 夫 知 道 羊 是 被 狼
chī le yú shì gǎn kuài bǎ dòng bǔ hǎo cóng
吃 了 ， 于 是 赶 快 把 洞 补 好 。 从
cǐ tā de yáng jiù zài méi yǒu diū shī le
此 ， 他 的 羊 就 再 没 有 丢 失 了 。

Mending the sheepfold after the sheep were lost

Once upon a time a farmer kept some sheep. One morning a heavy rain destroyed the fold. His neighbor told him that he should mend the fold, or otherwise wolves might come and eat the sheep. The farmer didn't take the neighbor's advice. He figured: "I could repair it tomorrow." The next morning the farmer saw some blood on the ground and found there was one sheep less. He knew the sheep was eaten up by a wolf. He mended the fence, and no sheep was lost from then on.

成语启迪

这个成语故事告诉我们，有时候犯了错误，不要灰心。只要我们马上想办法改正错误，这样就能避免错误的再次发生。

Moral

This story tells us it is never too late to correct mistakes.

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