

## The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

A town mouse once went to visit his cousin in the country. The country mouse loved the peace and quiet and the simple food he found in the fields and the hedgerows, but the town mouse did not find it comfortable at all. The food was boring and the quiet quite unnerved him. Where was the excitement, the bustle, the richness? His cousin must come to visit him in town and see how splendid life could be.

So the country mouse left his little hole in the ground and travelled with his cousin to the town, where the noise was indescribable and the rush and bustle quite nerve-wracking. The house was grand enough though and the food, oh the food, a great spread of pies and cakes and meats and cheeses. The country mouse was overwhelmed but he settled down with his cousin to feast.

No sooner had they started however, and before he had had chance to swallow his first mouthful of cheese, the door to the dining room crashed open and in raced two huge dogs with tongues lolling and lips slavering. The town mouse urged him to flee and they made it to the hole in the skirting board just in time. The country mouse was determined to leave immediately. He could not bear such shocks and upsets, and he returned as speedily as he could to his quiet life in the country.