It was a hot and sunny day. Three furry friends went out to play.
“Oh, no!” said Squirrel.
There might be lightning.
I’m going inside.
This is just too frightening.”

Up in the sky,
the clouds were forming.
The radio said
it might soon be storming!
But Rabbit remembered what he learned in school... about the 30/30 Rule.

The 30/30 Rule

Go inside if you hear thunder within 30 seconds of a lightning flash.

Wait at least 30 minutes after you hear thunder before going back outside.
And Possum thought, I should do something. But he sat in his hammock and just did nothing!

Rabbit just kept a watchful eye for big, dark clouds up in the sky.
“Squirrel, please come back out and play. There is no lightning yet today!”

But Squirrel was hiding under the bed. “I’m too scared!” was all he said.
Later the clouds started getting dark, and Rabbit saw the lightning spark!

“One Tallahassee, Two Tallahassee, Three Tallahassee, Four...”

Then Rabbit heard the thunder roar.
“Hurry Possum, I only got to four. Let’s go inside and close the door!”

And Possum thought, I should do something. But he sat in his hammock and just did nothing!
Then the wind began to blow.
Big, dark clouds began to grow.

Thunder woke Possum with a great big jolt.
Then he saw another lightning bolt.
“Squirrel, come out. It’s just rain falling.” But he did not hear Rabbit calling.

It rained and rained and rained some more. It really was a big downpour!
“Let’s watch the rain fall on the ground. Away from the window, we’re safe and sound!”

“From the phone and the tub we’ll stay away, and we’ll be safe on this rainy day.”
The rain soon stopped, but not the thunder. “Is it safe to go outside, I wonder?”

“When the thunder stops you have to wait for thirty minutes, just to be safe!”
And when the thunder was no more...

...after thirty minutes, they opened the door.

Even Squirrel came out at last.
"Let's go outside.
The storm has passed."
“Oh, Possum, look! Your hammock is soaked. And your umbrella... why, it is smoked!”

Just then, the radio did say,

“Another chance of storms today.”
Possum stayed and cleaned up his stuff. Boy, he thought, life is tough.

“Oh, no!” cried Squirrel as he ran inside. Back under the bed he went to hide.
And because Rabbit knew to do the right thing,

But Rabbit knew the 30/30 Rule. He had done what he learned in school. It was now his turn to just do nothing.
THE 30/30 RULE

Go inside if you hear thunder within 30 seconds of a lightning flash.

Wait at least 30 minutes after you hear thunder before going back outside.

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The Innovation Institute

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