

Can a stuffy nose save your life? : Storytelling tips and Learning tools

Before narration:

- Introduce this as a Turkish folktale
- Ask the children if they know who the king of the jungle is.
[Answer: Lion]

Story telling tips:

- Narrate the story steps in the appropriate order using the illustrations as a memory key. Feel free to swap the animals in the story with any other suitable ones
- Use facial expressions to show the rabbit's expression of the stinky cave, the silly, big-mouthed donkey, the angry lion, and the sniffing fox
- Try different voices for the lion, rabbit, donkey, and fox and express the fear in the animals' voices by trembling and appropriate facial emotions:
 - Rough, base voice for the lion
 - Silly, giggly voice for the donkey
 - Timid, shy voice for the rabbit, and
 - Nasal voice for the fox

Note: Insert a hee-haw for the donkey, a roar for the lion, and a sniffle for the fox for added effect.

- Hold suspense when the children look forward to what the fox would say and lead to it slowly. For example, you may ask, "...the fox came up and guess what he said?"
Ask the children to suggest responses. Appreciate any responses and reveal the ending slowly

After narration:

- Ask the children:
 - To talk about what they liked or disliked about the story and about the characters
 - Extrapolate on what could the rabbit and donkey have done differently to escape from the lion
 - If they have heard of any other lion stories where the lion is outwitted
[A parallel is an Indian tale with a rabbit that tricks the lion into believing that its reflection inside a well is another lion and sends the lion spiraling into the well, thus ending its tyranny.]
 - To describe the lion [angry, huge, scary], rabbit [timid, small, honest], donkey [silly, stupid, dishonest], and fox [sly, scheming, cunning, shrewd]
 - If they are aware of any jungles nearby with lions
- You can also ask if there any kids from Turkey and if they have heard this tale before

Extended activities:

- Children can enact the story in class as a group
- Children can be asked to imagine the forest scene and describe it in their own words. What other animals were around? Was it a hot day? And so on...

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Reading Comprehension:

Questions to ask the children:

- Who is a dictator? Name some countries in the world that are ruled by dictators
- Name a few different types of rule that exist in the world today
- What do you think “petrified” means?
- What is the synonym of “crafty” in the story?
- What is the antonym of “flatter”?

Answer Key

- A leader with absolute power who often rules by force. Ex. North Korea, Syria, Sudan, Zimbabwe
- Democracy, Dictatorship, Monarchy, Republic, etc.
- Turned to stone (in this story, due to fright)
- Sly
- Insult