

Folk Tales: Preschool-2nd Grade

A RIF Guide for Educators

Themes: Folk Tales, Fairy Tales, Tall Tales

Book Brief: This guide is designed for use with folk tales at the Preschool to 2nd Grade reading level. Adapt the questions and activities in this guide to the book you are reading.

Content Connections: ELA, Social Studies

Time To Read!

Before we read, let's look at...

The Cover: What is the title of this book? Who is the author? Who is the illustrator? What is happening in the cover illustration? Based on the cover, what will happen in this story?

Prior Knowledge: Explain that a folk tale is a story passed down from generation to generation, often by word of mouth. Sometimes, authors collect folk tales and write them down. Each author or storyteller tells the story in a slightly different way, so there may be many versions of the same folk tale.

Vocabulary: Identify 3-5 words that are likely to be new to your students and introduce them before you read this book with your class.

Purpose for Reading: Most folk tales include a central message, lesson, or moral, and it's important to be able to identify it. As we read, think about what the central message, lesson, or moral might be.

While We Read

Monitoring Comprehension

- Retell this story, including important details.
- Describe the characters, settings, and events in this story, using details from both the words and the illustrations.
- Identify key words and phrases, such as rhymes or repeated lines, that help you to understand what is happening in the story.
- What words or phrases in the story appeal to your five senses?

Let's Think About

Our Purpose: What is the central message, lesson, or moral of this folk tale?

Extending Our Thinking: Read another version of the same folk tale by a different author. As a class, make a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the similarities and differences in the stories. Discuss which version students feel does a better job of highlighting the central message, lesson, or moral, and why.