

THE BEAR, THE BAT, AND THE DOVE

By Rob Cleveland

First Grade

Outcome:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the story through the use of reading, phonics, discussion, public speaking, and illustration.

Overview:

Students will read and explore a folktale, while utilizing interdisciplinary connections in language arts, dramatic arts, and art.

Materials:

Book, The Bear, the Bat, and the Dove

Map or globe

Pencil, lined paper

Optional: How & Why Stories (Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss, August House 1999)

Shake-It-Up Tales! (Margaret Read MacDonald, August House 2000)

Assessment Tools:

Opposites worksheet

Riddles worksheet

Nouns and Verbs worksheet

Sentence Match Up worksheet

Rhyming Words worksheet

INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

Introduction:

Inform the class they are going to read a book that is an **anthology**.

- Write the word anthology on the board and define its meaning.
 - A collection of poems or stories in one book.
 - An anthology can also be a collection of selected works of art or music.
- Ask students to use the letters in the word anthology to make as many smaller words as possible. (an, ant, no, hog, got, not, holy, log, go, gnat, tog, hot, lot, tag, lag, than, lay, nag, gay, thong, long, hang, tang, goal, hay, loan, along, ago, thy, halo...)

Teacher explains:

- Aesop, a slave in ancient Greece, told the three stories in this anthology. Show the location of Greece on map or globe.
- His stories, which contain lessons, are very well known. Ask students to name an Aesop's fable they know or have heard.
- These stories have been told and re-told over the years and small changes have been made, but the meaning of the lessons remains the same.
- The second story in the anthology is a pourquoi ("porkwa") story. The word, pourquoi means why in French.

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Introduction cont.:

- Pourquoi stories answer questions to explain **why** things are the way they are. For example, why is the sea salty?
- These stories were especially important to ancient people who did not have scientific investigation. Teacher distributes books. Students take turns reading pages aloud. Teacher asks comprehension questions after each story.

Discussion Questions to Assess Comprehension:

- **“The Bear and the Travelers”**
 - Where does this story take place?
 - Name the main characters.
 - How do the men feel when they meet the bear?
 - Why did one traveler climb the tree?
 - What did the bear tell the other traveler? Do you agree with him?
 - What does this tale say about friendship? Courage?
- **“Why Bat Flies At Night”**
 - What does this pourquoi story explain?
 - How is the bat like land animals?
 - How is the bat like birds?
 - How did the bat decide which side to be on during the battle?
 - What does the bat do during the day?
 - Why does the bat fly at night?
 - What does this story say about friendship? Trustworthiness?
- **“The Ant and the Dove”**
 - Why did the ant need help?
 - Why do you think the dove helped the ant?
 - How did the ant help the dove?
 - Why did the ant help the dove?
 - What does this story say about friendship? Resourcefulness?
 - A dove is usually a symbol of peace. Did the dove help the ant in a peaceful way?
 - Did the ant help the dove in a peaceful way? Could he have helped any other way?
 - Which story did you like best? Why?
 - How do the animals in all of the stories behave like humans?
- The storyteller chose these three stories to put into this anthology. How do these stories relate to one another? Why do you think he chose these particular stories?

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Language Arts:

- Opposites worksheet

Directions: Change the underlined word or words in each sentence to have the opposite meaning.

1. The man climbed down the tree. _____
2. The bear bumped the man with his small snout. _____
3. The traveler on the ground pretended to be alive. _____
4. The bear said, "Always travel with a friend who deserts you at the first sign of danger." _____
5. The animals of the land started to lose the war. _____
6. The bat would never join the side that seemed to be winning. _____
7. One day there was war between the land animals and the birds. _____
8. The birds said, "Come brother and stand with us. _____
9. Bat hides from everyone during the night and flies when the sun is up. _____
10. The birdcatcher stood over the tree. _____
11. The birdcatcher let out a small yell. _____

Word bank: win, day, always, under, up, down, large, large, dead, sit, out, peace, never

- Riddles worksheet

Directions: Read each riddle and write the answer in the space provided.

I hang in trees.

I have wings.

I tried to be a land animal and a bird.

I come out at night.

Who am I? _____

I am very small.

I fell in the river.

I stung the birdcatcher on the foot.

Who am I? _____

I am big and black.

I have sharp claws.

I give good advice.

Who am I? _____

I am white.

I can fly.

I saved the ant with a leaf.

Who am I? _____

- Nouns and Verbs

An activity for differentiated learning

Group A: Complete Nouns and Verbs worksheet

Directions: Write the nouns (person, place or thing) under the heading, nouns. Write the verbs (action words) under the heading, verbs.

Group B: Re-read two of the stories with a partner. Make two columns on a piece of paper and write the heading, nouns in the first column. Write the heading, verbs in the second column. Write as many nouns and verbs as you can find in these stories.

Group C: Work independently. Re-read all three stories. Record all verbs and nouns as above.

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- Sentence Match Up worksheet

Directions: Cut out the phrase strips and the word strips. Match the words with the phrases to complete the sentences.

- Rhyming Words worksheet

Rhyming words are words that sound alike at the end of the word. Draw a circle around each word pair that rhymes.

bear	cat	man	woods	path	tree	land
cave	bat	fan	goods	math	me	sand

flew	sit	day	cave	leaf	dove	yell
blue	fit	play	gave	beef	love	sell

snout	sniffed	ear	ant	foot
but	kind	car	went	get

Dramatic Arts and Art:

Create a pourquoi story to tell the class. Draw a storyboard to illustrate the story's main events. Include at least 4 illustrations in the correct order. Think about how the character's voices might sound and any sound effects that can be included to make the story more interesting to listeners. Students tell their stories to the class using the storyboard. Story suggestions: thunder and lightning, how tigers got their stripes, why hens scratch in the dirt, why dogs chase cats, why the sun and moon are in the sky

Extension Activities:

Read How & Why Stories (Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss)

Compare this version of Why Bat Flies Alone At Night with the version in The Bear, the Bat, and the Dove. Compare the other pourquoi stories in this anthology with the student's stories.

Other stories for comparison:

The Hidden Feast (Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss, August House 2006)

Conejito (Margaret Read MacDonald, August House 2006)

Read The Elephants and the Bees in Shake-It-Up Tales! pages 134-138.

This story combines all of the themes from The Bear, the Bat, and the Dove. It is a pourquoi story that shows what happens when friendship is reciprocated and then betrayed.

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Riddles

Directions: Read each riddle and write the answer in the space provided.

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I have wings.
I tried to be a land animal and a bird.
I come out at night.
Who am I? _____

I am big and black.
I have sharp claws.
I give good advice.
Who am I? _____

I am very small.
I fell in the river.
I stung the birdcatcher on the foot,
Who am I? _____

I am white.
I can fly.
I saved the ant with a leaf.
Who am I? _____

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Nouns and Verbs

Directions: Write the nouns (person, place or thing) under the heading, nouns. Write the verbs (action words) under the heading, verbs.

Nouns

Verbs

man, woods, walking, ran, climb, friend, sign, bear, path, gave,
travel, tree, deserts, attack, sniffed, snout, bumped,
pretended, learned, ear, asked, whispered

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Sentence Match Up

Directions: Cut out the phrase strips and the word strips. Match the words with the phrases to complete the sentences.

The ant floated safely to

dove.

The man ran up a

war.

The noise woke up the

winning.

The bear whispered in the man's

land.

The animals were having a

side.

Bat would always join the side
which seemed to be

me.

The bat flew into the cave to

leaf.

The bat ended up on neither

hide.

The ant thought, this is the end of

ear.

The dove plucked a

tree.

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blue	fit	play	gave

snout	sniffed	ear	ant
but	kind	car	went

tree	land	dove	yell
me	sand	love	sell

path	leaf	foot
math	beef	get