

THE CONTEST BETWEEN THE SUN AND THE WIND

Pre-Kindergarten

Outcome:

Students will learn about the sun and the wind and discover their significance to the story.

Materials:

Book, *The Contest Between the Sun and the Wind*

“Character Puppets” worksheet

Popsicle Sticks

Glue

Scissors

Crayons or markers

“Follow the Winding Road” worksheet

1 (3-foot) strip of crepe paper per student

1 large white paper plate per student

Yellow paint

Paint brushes

Yellow crepe paper cut into strips

Newspaper to cover work surface

Finger paints

Finger paint paper

Dark-colored construction paper

Various objects such as feathers, leaves, coins, scissors, pencils, cookie cutters, and jar lids

Cooking Materials:

Can opener

Plates

Napkins

Teaspoons

Ingredients:

1 Ring of Pineapple per student

1 TBL Lemon Yogurt (or other yellow-colored yogurt) per student

½ Slice American Cheese per student, bent or cut into thin strips

Optional:

Hamilton, Martha and Mitch Weiss. *Rooster’s Night Out*. Atlanta: August House. 2006.

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INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

Introduction:

Materials:

“Character Puppets” worksheet

Popsicle Sticks

Glue

Scissors

Crayons or markers

Directions:

Teacher:

- Asks students what they know about the sun.
- Asks students what they know about the wind.
- Asks students which they believe is stronger or more powerful, the sun or the wind.
- And students discuss their reasons why one is more powerful than the other.
- Mentions extreme examples of wind such as hurricanes and tornados for students to consider.
- Tells students they will read a story about a particular day and a contest between the sun and the wind.
- Gives each student a copy of the “Character Puppets” worksheet.
- Instructs students to color in the pictures of the man, the Wind, and the Sun.
- Instructs students to cut out each character on the dotted lines.
- Instructs students to glue each character to a Popsicle stick.

Teacher Reads the Story:

Materials:

Book, *The Contest Between the Sun and the Wind*

Directions:

Teacher:

- Reminds students they will be listening to a story about the Sun, the Wind, and the man.
- Asks students to listen carefully for the characters the Sun, the Wind, and the man.

Questions for Assessing Students’ Comprehension:

- Who are the characters in this story?
- What were the Wind and the Sun arguing about?
- What kind of contest did the Wind and the Sun have?
- What did the Wind do to try to prove its strength?
- What did the man do when the Wind blew hard?
- What did the Sun do to prove its strength?
- What did the man do when the Sun grew brighter?
- Why did the man take off his coat?

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Questions for Interpretation:

- How are the Wind and the Sun different from each other?
- How does the Wind make you feel?
- How does the Sun make you feel?
- How are the illustrations of the Wind and the Sun different?
- What did the Sun mean when it said, "...through gentleness I won my way"?

Follow Up Activities:

• **Retell the Story**

Materials:

Book, *The Contest Between the Sun and the Wind*

Puppets created from the "Character Puppets" worksheet

Directions:

Teacher:

- Shows students the illustrations, page by page, and they practice retelling the story.
- Asks students what the Wind's voice might sound like.
- Asks students what the Sun's voice might sound like.
- Tells students to retell the story using their character stick puppets.

• **Follow the Winding Road**

Materials:

"Follow the Winding Road" worksheet

Crayons or markers

Directions:

Students:

- Find the man on the "Follow the Winding Road" worksheet.
- Use a crayon to trace the man's path down the winding road.

• **Crepe Paper Streamers**

Materials:

1 (3-foot) strip of crepe paper per student

Directions:

Teacher:

- Takes students outside on a windy day.
- Asks students to hold a crepe paper strip in their hands and watch it blow in the wind.
- Asks students to run while holding the crepe paper strip.
- Asks students to tie their strips to a heavy (stationary) object (such as a pole on a swing set).
- Asks students to observe the strip blowing in the wind.
- Asks students which direction the wind is blowing based on the movement of the crepe paper strips.

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Follow Up Activities cont.:

• **Paper Plate Suns**

Materials:

Book, *The Contest Between the Sun and the Wind*

1 large white paper plate per student

Yellow paint

Paint brushes

Yellow crepe paper cut into strips

Markers

Newspaper to cover work surface

Directions:

- Teacher asks students what the Sun (in the story) looked like.
- Teacher reviews illustrations of the Sun with students.
- Teacher gives 1 paper plate to each student and instructs students to paint their paper plates yellow.
- While the paint is still wet, students attach one end of each crepe paper strip around the circumference of the plate to create the sun's rays.
- Students place their plates in an assigned spot to dry thoroughly.
- When plates are dry, students may draw a friendly face on their suns (like the Sun in the story.)
- Teacher hangs each sun in the classroom where air movement will flutter the "rays" of the sun.

• **Wind Pictures**

Materials:

Finger paints

Finger paint paper

Newspapers to cover work surface

Directions:

- Teacher asks students what the Wind (in the story) looked like.
- Teacher asks students how the illustrator showed the Wind's movement.
- Teacher reviews illustrations of the Wind with students.
- Students use finger paints to create a picture of the Wind.

• **Rhyming Words**

Materials:

Book, *The Contest Between the Sun and the Wind*

Directions:

Teacher:

- Reviews the concept of "rhyme" with students and gives examples of rhyming words.
- Rereads the story with students and asks them to point out rhyming words in the text.

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Follow Up Activities cont.:

• **Act It Out**

Materials:

Book, *The Contest Between the Sun and the Wind*

Directions:

Teacher:

- Reviews the illustrations, page by page, and asks students to describe what the man is doing.
- Asks students to describe how they think the man feels in each illustration.
- Asks students to pretend to be the man and act out what he is doing on each page.

• **Solar Art**

Materials:

Dark-colored construction paper

Various objects (such as feathers, leaves, coins, scissors, pencils, cookie cutters, and jar lids)

Directions:

- Teacher tells students about the sun's ability to fade paper and cloth.
- Teacher takes students outside on a bright sunny day.
- Each student is given one piece of dark construction paper and a variety of objects to place on the paper.
- Students leave their papers in the sunny location for at least 3-4 hours. (Less time is needed if special solar paper is used.)
- Students retrieve their papers and observe that the sun has faded the paper surrounding the areas covered by the objects.

• **Sunshine Salad**

Materials:

Can opener

Plates

Napkins

Teaspoons

Ingredients:

1 Ring Pineapple per student

1 TBL Lemon Yogurt (or other yellow-colored yogurt) per student

½ Slice American Cheese per student, bent or cut into thin strips

Directions:

1. Place 1 ring of pineapple in the center of each plate.
2. Spoon yogurt in the center (hole) of the pineapple slice.
3. Place thin strips of American cheese fanning out around the pineapple ring (to make the sun's "rays").

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Extension:

- **Compare and Contrast**

Materials:

Book, *Rooster's Night Out*

Directions:

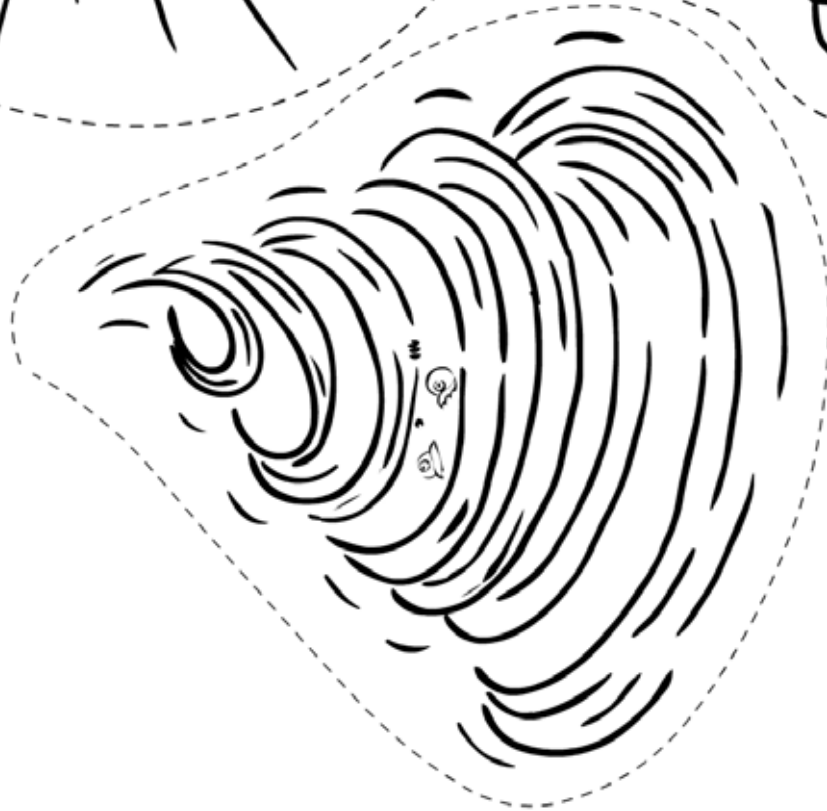
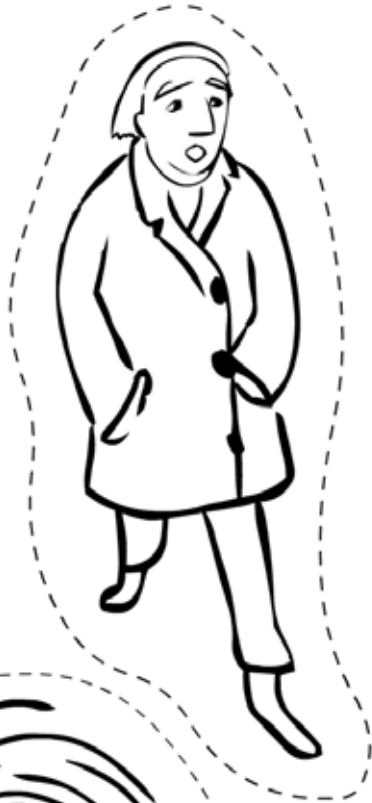
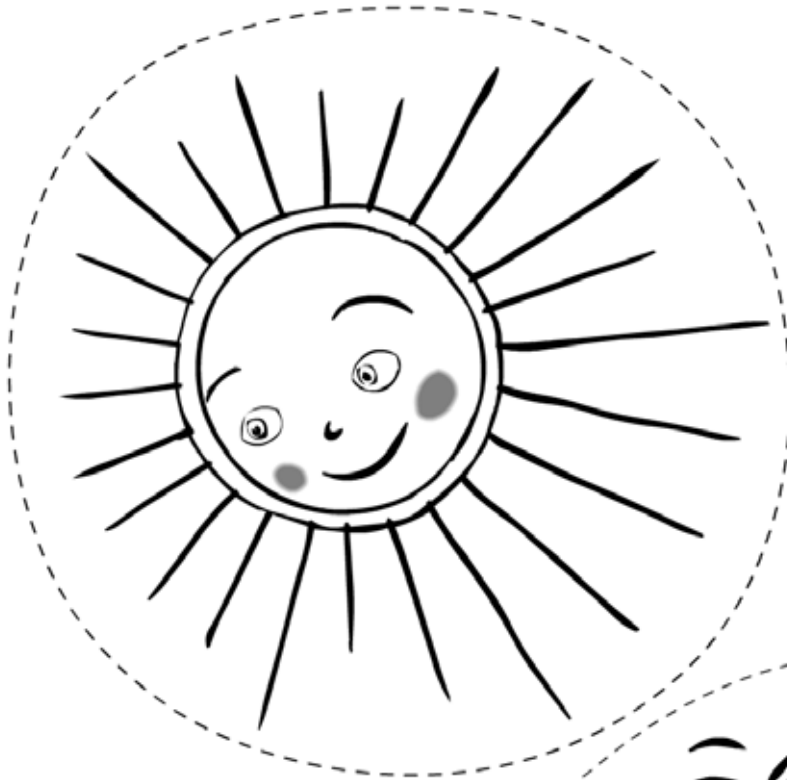
Teacher reads *Rooster's Night Out* by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss. Students compare and contrast the Sun in this story with the Sun in *The Contest Between the Sun and the Wind*.

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Name _____ Date _____

Character Puppets



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Name _____ Date _____

Follow the Winding Road

