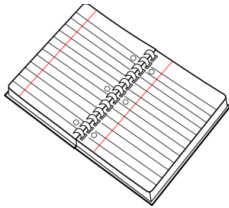




Family Writing Connections

Grade 3 Unit 4: Once Upon a Time Adapting and Writing Fairy Tales



Overview:

Over the course of this unit, students will write two fairy tale adaptations and one original fairy tale. This unit will push students to use a strong storyteller's voice, write with a story arc, create the world of a story, and bring characters to life. Teachers will emphasize the importance of clear event sequence, and language that signals event order. Through the multiple writing cycles of this unit, students will have ample time to practice these writing lessons.

In this unit, Students will:

- **Adapt** classic fairy tales for many reasons. Some may adapt fairy tales to teach modern-day lessons, showcase a difference in character or setting, or to make their audience laugh.
- **Adapt** classic fairy tales by knowing the original well and deciding on a meaningful change that will lead to other changes throughout the story.
- **Study** the work of others as a way to improve their own craft.
- **Apply** what they know as readers, organizing their stories in the form of a story arc and writing their fairy tales in 3 or 4 scenes.
- **Tell** their stories aloud to rehearse what they want to say before writing it down on paper.
- **Choose** words and phrases for effect.

- **Apply** what they know about standard English conventions to publish pieces enabling their work to be read with ease.

Ways to help at home:

- Visit the library and take out classic fairy tales and different adaptations of them. Discuss how the author changed the original story. (There are many versions of Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Boy, Snow White, Rapunzel, etc.)
- Write a new adaptation of a fairy tale together as a family.
- Work together as a family to create a new fairy tale using your family members as the characters.

See attached Writing Rubric and Exemplars for this Unit:

- 3rd Grade Narrative Writing Checklist
- Exemplar: *Zander, the Evil Step Parents and the Trip to Disney World*

New Jersey Student Learning

Standards (NJSLs): Please refer to Morris School District Rubicon Atlas Website to view standards specific to this unit.

