



Story Theater Catalog 2022-2023

Welcome back to Story Theater

Life Lessons

Big Cat. Little Fox by Cheryl Stephani
Grades K-2

Friends: What makes us special?
Have Fun: How can we have fun together?

Big Cat thinks that he is the best dancer in the woods. Even though he sashays, limbos, sways and swings, Little Fox may have him beat with an elegant foxtrot. In this story by a local author, Big Cat learns an important lesson about being yourself.

How Full Is Your Bucket for Kids by Tom Rath & Mary Reckmeyer
Grades K-2

Friends & Family:
How do friends and family help one another?

Grandpa, with the help of an invisible bucket, teaches Felicia that actions have consequences. Negative things can make you feel empty and positive things can fill you up.

Wombat Stew by Marcia Vaughn
Kindergarten

Animals; Friends: Where do some animals live?
How do friends help one another?

Friendly Australian animals help Wombat avoid becoming part of Dingo's stew by outsmarting him. Seven large colorful posters of animals illustrate this favorite kindergarten story. *Social Studies Standard 0.3.2.3.1 Places and Regions (See pg. 8)*

Petunia by Roger Duvoisin
Grades 1-2

Friends: What makes you special? How do friends help each other? What makes a good friend?

Petunia the goose pretends to know everything. She thinks that just because she found a BOOK, she can give advice to all her barnyard friends. What a silly goose! She finds out how important it is to learn to READ after she causes a huge problem for all of them.

Tooth Trouble by Abby Klein
Grade 1

Friends and Family: How do friends and family help one another?

Freddy is the only one in his class who has not lost a tooth! His sister teases him and his parents tell him to be patient. When he finally loses a tooth, he really does lose it. Will the Tooth Fairy still come?

Arthur's Pet Business by Marc Brown
Grades 1-2

Responsibility: How do friends and family help each other?

Arthur wants a puppy. First, he must show his parents that he can take responsibility for caring for it. He starts a business caring for pets. It does get a little bit out of control, and that's where the fun begins.

Social Studies Standard 2.2.1.1.1 Economic Reasoning Skills (See pg. 8)

Cappuccina Goes to Town by Mary Ann Smith & Katie Milway
All ages

All About Us: What makes someone special?

A cow's life is not very exciting until she finds a hole in a fence and goes to town. There she finds many things in her favorite color BLUUUE and discovers it is not so bad to be a cow.

Freckle Juice by Judy Blume
Grades 2-4

Growing Up: What experiences can cause a person to change?

Andrew wants freckles so badly he believes a magic potion sold by a classmate would work. The results are painful and somewhat humiliating for Andrew until his teacher steps in to help.

Jerome by Phillip Ressler
Grades 2-3

Community Heroes: What heroes live in your community?

After a witch casts her spell on a little frog named Jerome, he hops into town where he finds its citizens being bullied by a destructive crow, a fire-breathing dragon and a fearsome wizard. His challenge is to rescue the town from destruction and persuade these creatures to do good. Jerome models his impressive negotiation skills to save the town. *Social Studies Standard 3.1.1.1.1 Civic Skills (See pg. 8)*



Red by Jan DeKinder
Grades 2-5

Working Together: How can teamwork help us in a difficult situation?

This brief, but powerful story begins with an innocent observation that turns a schoolyard game into an opportunity for a bully. An empathetic girl finds courage with the help of her classmates as they successfully solve a familiar problem for students.

Miss Daisy Is Crazy by Dan Gutman
Grades 3-4

Let's Learn: Why is learning important?

Something weird is going on. Miss Daisy, who is supposed to teach kids, doesn't know how to add, subtract, read or write! However, she knows something very important about the students in her classroom: how to make them think and learn. *Social Studies Standard 4.1.1.1 Civic Skills (See pg. 8)*

Adios, Coyote by Marcia Vaughn
Grades 3-5

Working Together: How can teamwork help us in a difficult situation?

Coyote, the pesky prankster, has a bad habit of playing tricks on the other animals. But what happens when the other animals turn the tables and trick him?

Citizenship

VOTE! By Eileen Christelow

Taking a Stand: How do community members work together? How do people make a difference in their communities? Why do people take action to support what they believe?

Grades 2-5

Using a town mayoral election as a model, this lively introduction to voting covers every step in the process from the start of the campaign to the voting booth. The cast of characters includes two dogs whose questions and comments mirror those of young students and help to explain some of an election's more confusing aspects. *Social Studies Standard 4.1.1.1 Civic Skills (See pg.8)*

Folk Tales

Uncle Nacho's Hat adapted by Harriet Rohmer Grades 1-3	Families and Neighbors: How do families and friends help one another?
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It's hard to part with familiar things. We can understand Uncle Nacho's reluctance to replace his old worn-out hat. His friends do not make it any easier. Meet Paco, Pedro, Ambrosia, a parrot, a monkey, a cat and a dog in this imaginative story from Nicaragua.

Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock retold by Eric Kimmel Grade 2	Better Together: Why can working together be better than working alone?
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KPOM!! Down goes Anansi when he notices the moss-covered rock. In this African folk tale, it seems everyone is helpless when the rock works its magic. Anansi, who is full of tricks, lures the jungle animals to the rock so he can take their food. Will he succeed? Little Bush Deer has been watching.

The Three Wishes All Ages	Change: What events help change the way we think?
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A husband and wife have a magical opportunity to gain anything they want. In their excitement, they are unable to plan together to make this come true. They learn a good lesson about communication.

The Four Musicians All Ages	Teaming Up to Survive: How can teamwork help us in a difficult situation?
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In this version of the "Bremen Town Musicians", aging animals, whose masters have turned them away, search for a new life in the city. When they encounter a robber and his men, the animals combine their strengths to frighten the robbers who prove to be no match for the clever "musicians."

Stone Soup retold by Marcia Brown All Ages	Problem Solving: How do we solve problems?
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In this old folktale, three tired and hungry travelers find no comfort in a village of selfish people. The travelers devise a clever strategy to teach the villagers the benefits of sharing.

The Big Turnip adapted by Geraldine Bain Siks
All Ages

Our Team: Why do people
work in teams?

What do you do with a turnip that grows so big that it threatens to overtake the garden? Everyone gets in the act of pulling out this huge vegetable. This intergenerational story from Russia shows Grandpa, Grandma, Katrinka, Mishka, Kishka and Dishka all working together to solve their problem.

A New Look at Old Tales

Three Friends and the Fox
Grades 1-2

Better Together: Why is working together
than working alone?

The lazy duck and mouse learn how to cooperate when they think they are going to become the fox's lunch! The resourceful hen teaches them that it helps to work together to solve difficult problems.

The Three Little Javelinas by Susan Lowell
Grades K- 2

Our Families; Our Neighbors: How
do our family and friends help one
another?

This version of *The Three Little Pigs* takes place in the Sonoran Desert where Native American, Mexican and Caucasian cultures blend together. This story may explain why the coyote has that howl!

Tops and Bottoms by Janet Stevens
Grades 1-3

Let's Learn: Why is learning important?

Bear has lots of money—but he is lazy. Hare has nothing but a hungry family—but he is smart. Hare devises a plan to outwit Bear and share in Bear's wealth. As in many folk tales, this trickster overcomes hardship by using his wits and Bear learns an important lesson.

The Wolf Who Cried Boy by Bob Hartman
Grades 4-Adult

The Power of Words: How can words
be powerful?

In this fractured fairy tale, Little Wolf tricks his parents to get out of eating his dinner. He thinks it would be more fun to eat a tasty boy instead. What a mix-up he causes when a Boy Scout troop comes exploring in the woods! (This story pairs well with *Aesop's Fables*.)

Aesop's Fables by Mary Ann Hoberman
All Ages

Storytellers: What makes a good story?

“The Peacock and the Crane;” “The Boy Who Cried Wolf;” “The Lion and the Mouse;” “The Tortoise and the Hare;” “The North Wind and the Sun” and “The Grasshopper and the Ants” are retold in rhyme. The morals are clear and as timeless as ever.

Tiger and Frog, A Hmong Fable
All Ages

Storytellers: What makes a good story?

In this Hmong fable, a little frog escapes becoming an appetizer for a hungry tiger by challenging him to a race. With the help of his friends, the frog outwits the tiger. This story pairs well with **Aesop's Fables**, especially when it is paired with “The Tortoise and the Hare”.

Younger Learners

Little Miss Giggles by Roger Hargreave
Preschool-Kindergarten

I Know a lot: What makes someone special?

When Little Miss Giggles loses her laugh, her grown-up but silly friends help her to find it again. You'll be giggling right with her by the end of the story!

Fraidy Cat by Marjorie Barrows
Preschool-Kindergarten

I Know a lot: What makes someone special?

A fearful kitten, afraid of everything, gains confidence when a wise old owl convinces him he has acted very bravely in traveling through the forest to ask for help. Then Fraidy Cat gets a new name.

Look Out for the Big Bad Fish by Sheridan Cain
Preschool-Kindergarten

Growing Up: Patience, learning as we grow

A little tadpole wants to be able to jump high like his mother frog and his friends: Lamb, Grasshopper and Rabbit. They give him hope and tell him to be patient--he will when he grows up. We follow his adventures as he travels further from home and finally meets the Big Fish!

Little Quack, Four Stories by Lauren Thompson **Growing up:** Learning as we grow
Preschool

“Little Quack’s New Friend;” Little Quack’s Hide and Seek;” “Little Quack Leaves the Nest” and “Little Quack’s Bedtime” are the simple adventures of four little ducklings.

Little Beaver and the Echo by Amy MacDonald **Friends:** What do you do with your friends?
Preschool **Animals:** Where do some animals live?

Like the little beaver in our story, children sometimes feel lonely especially in new situations. Little Beaver finds that friends are everywhere—one just must look for them.

Franklin Says Sorry by Paulette Bourgeois **Friends:** What do you do with your friends?
Preschool-Grade 1

Franklin and his friends are excited about making their tree fort into a ship. But Franklin almost loses Bear as his friend when he tells Bear’s special secret. Franklin must learn how say “I’m sorry.”

Reading aloud to children helps them develop and improve literacy skills—reading, writing, speaking and listening. Since children listen on a higher level than they read, listening to other readers stimulates growth and understanding of vocabulary and language patterns.

*Jim Trelease, author of **The Read Aloud Handbook***

Social Studies Connections

Citizenship and Government

Third Grade: (3.1.1.1.1) Civic Skills. “Jerome” illustrates how people can make a difference in the civic lives of their communities to address a specific problem or need.

Fourth Grade (4.1.1.1.1) Civic Skills. “VOTE!” and “Miss Daisy Is Crazy” illustrate how people take action to influence a decision on a specific issue.

Economics

Second Grade: (2.2.1.1.1) Economic Reasoning Skills. “Arthur’s Pet Business” and “Tops and Bottoms” show the challenges in making good choices.

Third Grade: (3.2.2.2.1) Personal Finance. “Tops and Bottoms” describes income as the money earned from selling resources and expenditures as the money used to buy goods and services.

Fourth Grade: (4.2.1.1.1) Economic Reasoning Skills. “Miss Daisy Is Crazy” shows the application of reasoned decision-making to make a choice.

Geography

Kindergarten: (0.3.2.3.1) Places and Regions. “Wombat Stew” helps to identify the physical and human characteristics of places.

Story Theater supports the Unified District’s four key goals:

- 1. To implement policies and practices that open pathways to academic excellence for all students*
- 2. To utilize culturally responsive teaching and personalized learning for all students*
- 3. To engage family and community members as partners*
- 4. To engage and empower students by amplifying student voices*