



Story Theater 2023-2024 Catalog

Welcome to Story Theater! *Life Lessons*

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

Friends; Have Fun: What makes us special? 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 and Mary Reckmeyer ***Friends and Family:*** How do friends and family help one another?
Grades K—2

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

Wombat Stew by Marcia Vaughn
Kindergarten

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

Friendly Australian animals help the Wombat avoid becoming part of the Dingo's stew by outsmarting him. Seven large colorful posters of animals illustrate this favorite kindergarten story.

Petunia by Roger Duvoisin
Grades 1—2

Friends: What makes you special? How do family and 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 actually learn to READ after she causes a huge problem for all of them.

Cappuccina Goes to Town by Mary Ann Smith & Katie Milway
Grades 1—3

Adventure; 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 BLOOOO and discovers it is not so bad to be a cow.

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.

Jerome by Phillip Ressner
Grades 2—3

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.

Red by Jan De Kinder
Grades 3—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.

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! 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 3—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 all the way 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.

VOTE! Eileen Christelow
Abridged for younger learners

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 1—2

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 all the way 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.

Folk Tales

Uncle Nacho's Hat adapted by Harriet Rohmer
Grades 1—3

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

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 is working together better than working alone?

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?

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 (Bremen Town Musicians)
All Ages

Teaming Up to Survive: How can teamwork help us in a difficult situation?

Four aging animals whose masters have turned them away have the spirit and confidence to look for a new way of life. They meet a robber captain and his men who are no match for clever ways the old animals use to frighten them away.

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 and grows and threatens to overtake the garden? Everyone gets into 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.

Stone Soup retold by Marcia Brown
All Ages

Problem Solving: How do we solve problems?

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.

A New Look at Old Tales

Three Friends and the Fox
Grades 1—2

Better Together: Why is working together better 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 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. *Javelina* comes from a Spanish name for a peccary. 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 cooks up 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—5

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
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 friend, the frog outwits the tiger. This story pairs well with Aesop's “Tortoise and the Hare.”

Younger Learners

Little Miss Giggles by Roger Hargreaves
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 find it again. You'll be giggling right with her by the end of the story!

Fraidy Cat and the Wise One
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 learn to jump high like his mother frog and his friends: Lamb, Grasshopper and Rabbit. They tell him to wait until he grows up, but there is a reason he needs to do it right now!

Little Quack—Four Stories by Lauren Thompson
Preschool

Growing Up: Learning as we grow

"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
Preschool—Grade 1

Friends: What do you do with your friends?
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 has to look for them.

Franklin Says Sorry by Paulette Bourgeois
Preschool—Grade 1

Friends: What do you do with your friends?

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 has to learn how to say, "I'm sorry."