

Kerpoof Lesson Plan: Metaphors in Fairy Tales

Grades: 7-9

Objective: Identify extended metaphors in fairy tales

Integration into the curriculum: This activity works very well in conjunction with *Briar Rose* by Jane Yolen. It set the students up to identify the extended, story-level metaphors in the novel.

Goal: Students will be able to identify extended metaphors in fairy tales

Time: One 45 minute class period—Fifteen minutes: PowerPoint presentation to access prior knowledge, introduce new material and model the assignment.; Thirty minutes: Project in pairs identifying metaphors and messages in fairy tales.

Materials: PowerPoint presentation, library of fairy tale picture books (large enough to accommodate half the class as the students will work on this assignment with a partner), access to computer lab with Internet access and printers (computers must have Flash 9.0 installed)

Caution: Not all fairy tales are conducive to this assignment. Choose your library of fairy tales carefully. My students have had a hard time completing this assignment with *Rapunzel*, for instance. However, it works very well with *Snow White*, *The Frog Prince*, *The Princess and the Pea* and many others.

Lesson:

1. Accessing prior knowledge
 - a. Discuss/review sentence-level metaphors
 - i. Definition
 - ii. Metaphor vs. Simile
 - b. Skills check
 - i. Have students evaluate phrases and raise hands when they have an answer
 - ii. Review why each phrase is or isn't a metaphor
2. Introducing new material
 - a. Sentence level vs. story level metaphors
 - i. Sentence = magnifying glass
 - ii. Story = binoculars
 - b. Example
3. Modeling
 - a. Read *The Three Little Pigs* aloud
 - b. Identify one story-level metaphor for the class
 - c. Have the class identify two more story-level metaphors and the overarching message
4. Project in pairs
 - a. Read a fairy tale picture book
 - b. Work with your partner to create Kerpoof story
 - i. Choose three characters, objects or events available in the Kerpoof fairy tale scenes
 - ii. Describe specific metaphors using speech bubbles
 - iii. Use the text box to identify the overall message of the fairy tale

See Kerpoof example.

