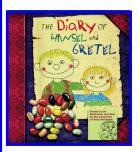


Cruchley's Collection

Diana Cruchley is an award-winning educator and author, who has taught at both elementary and secondary levels. Her workshops are practical, include detailed handouts, and are always enthusiastically received.

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The Diary of Hansel and Gretel

Kees Moerbeek, ©2002, Simon and Schuster, ISBN 0-689-84602-9

The story of Hansel and Gretel is told by Gretel, in her voice and with her point of view. A very clever pop-up story – and a potential model for student pieces.

Point of View

Any of the fairy tales, or indeed a part of any novel, or a historic event, can be re-written in the form of a diary of one of the characters. In this way, the character can be given his or her own peculiar qualities that can come out in the telling. In this story, Gretel is just a little ascerbic. She doesn't have much confidence, deservedly, in her brother Hansel, but she loves him and saves him anyway.

Students can take a fairy tale and re-write it from the point of view of one of the characters – Cinderella from the point of view of one of the stepsisters, or one of the mice, or the fairy godmother. The fairy godmother, for example, might think that Cinderella is a little bit of a whiner - always calling for help or crying instead of helping herself.

Pop Up

There are several books showing how to create your own pop-ups. Students can write a simple story - this one has about 600 words - and turn it into a simple, but clever picture book.

Newspaper Story

Teach the elements of the newspaper story. Then duplicate and read together the newspaper coverage by the Grimm brothers titled: Little Girl Outsmarts Evil Witch! from the book. Students could write a newspaper story about any of the fairy tales that they know. First brainstorm a list of fairy tales. Students sign up for the one they want (set a limit on how many per fairy tale) and start to write.

Of course, in Social Studies, it is always productive to write newspaper stories connected to any subject under study from Egypt, to the development of the CPR, to the gold rush, to explorers, and so on.

Instructions

In the middle of the book there are a set of operating instructions for The Inferno, "the best cooking oven for every witch." After you have taught the characteristics of a good set of directions, students could make a mock set of instructions of their own: Instructions for making porridge for Goldilocks and the Three Bears, instructions for sweeping the hearth for Cinderella, instructions for making a candied apple for Snow White, and so on.



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Creating a Mock Newspaper

Teach how to write the newspaper story. Paragraphs are short, with 1-2 sentences. The lead paragrpah contains the who, what, where, when, why, and how. Quotes go in the middle. It should be able to cut from the bottom to fit in the newspaper

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Details

Working in teams of 4-5, students can chose a fairytale and then write an entire front page of newspaper stories that might emerge from that tale.

