

Authors and Illustrators
Grade: K-4

Description:

Ah, the joys of writing! Students will learn first hand about the profession of writing and illustrating from a children's book author and an illustrator. Hearing about the author's and the illustrator's background and passions will inspire students to follow their creative interest! Students will learn all about the publishing process, reinforcing the essential phases of brainstorming, drafting, editing, revising, and polishing.

Preparation for the Excursion

To ensure the most meaningful learning experience for your students, it is recommended that students engage in activities prior to the excursion. The video resources provide students with a context for the virtual excursion. The additional resources and activities offer opportunities for curricular connections and integration within your larger unit of study. The excursion is intended to complement a comprehensive unit. During the excursion, classes will be asked to share their response to the challenge question and the expert will provide feedback. It is recommended that your students decide as a class on *one* response to the challenge question.

All About Donivee Laird, children's book author

Learn all about Donivee Laird, a children's book author in Honolulu, Hawaii. Through this multi-media website, students will learn about her background, inspirations, creative process, and more!

http://www.21-learn.com/authors/donivee_laird/index.htm

Barnaby Books: <http://www.barnabybooks.com>

To learn more about Donivee Laird and all of her books, visit the official website.

Challenge Questions:

Donivee Martin Laird uses classical stories and her own personal cultural connections to create stories that bring her culture alive through the telling of a classic tale. Her book *The Three Little Hawaiian Pigs and the Magic Shark* retells the tale of the *Three Little Pigs* with a Hawaiian twist.

Can you think of other books, cartoons, or movies that use the story of the Three Little Pigs?

Responses/Prompts:

Here is a list of different books that are based on the classical tale of The Three Little Pigs:

- *Classical tale of The Three Little Pigs*
- *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieska
- *The Three Little Hawaiian Pigs and the Magic Shark* by Donivee Martin Laird – Author interviewed in Passport
- *The Three Little Pigs* by Paul Galdone
- *The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig* by Eugene Trivias
- *The Three Little Javelinas* by Susan Lowell
- *The Three Little Pigs* by James Marshall
- *The Fourth Little Pig* by Teresa Celsi
- *The Three Little Cajun Pigs* by Berthe Amoss

Lesson at a glance:

Students will work through the creative process of brainstorming, investigation, and critical thinking to understand that tales are told differently around the world. Students will engage in a classroom discussion of how stories change from one culture to another. At the end of this unit, students will either recreate a famous tale or write a sequel to an original story and then create a book of their own, complete with illustrations, characters, and more!

Lesson Outcomes:

The students will:

- Learn about the writing process;
- Use creative thinking to write and draw their own book;
- Investigate different books that utilize a similar story with variations.

Activity:**Materials:**

- Multiple versions of different books with the same story - Cinderella, The Three Little Pigs, or Little Red Riding Hood
- Graphic Organizer – Story Map, Comparison Chart, Writing Organizers
- Access to computer/ printer for word processing
- Access to clip art or materials for illustrations or art materials for making illustrations
- Bookmaking materials – *see bookmaking websites for materials*

Part I.

Enter into a classroom discussion of classical fairy tales. Create a list of these fairy tales and lead students to the Three Little Pigs.

Basic Fairy Tale information:

Lead the discussion to the fact that the fairy tales we are familiar with today were first told long ago. The basic framework of the story was passed down through generations. They were not written down; instead, the storytellers would travel to many places, repeating the story to local people. In many other retellings, the stories were often adapted to accommodate the culture and customs of the audience. As a result, there are many versions of popular fairy tales throughout the world. Here are some basic facts about fairy tales that you can use for classroom discussion:

- Fairy tales usually begin with “Once upon a time.” or “Long ago.”
- Characters can be talking animals, kings, queens, princes, and princess.
- Fairy tales often contain magic.
- Fairy tales usually have a good and bad character.
- Fairy tales usually have happy endings.

Part II.

Show students samples of the original classical tale of the Three Little Pigs. Discuss the differences and similarities between the story and other versions of the classical tale. Create a comparison chart of

the different versions of the Three Little Pigs and post this in the classroom. Suggested points of comparison: characters, setting, events, and/or outcome.

Part III.

Decide if you would like your students to write a sequel to the tale or create their own version. Design a template for students to brainstorm their information and write their own fairy tale. Make sure the students have the basic information for the story included in their version. Discuss with your students the importance of creating a picture/story connection. You may also want to discuss the amount of text versus pictures and how it affects the book's imagery. Talk about creating variety within their books by changing the amount of text/pictures on each page.

Here are some different ideas for a new version of the Three Little Pigs:

- Create a modern day version of the Three Little Pigs- city apartments, skyscrapers, or alternative houses other than straw, sticks, and wood.
- Create a cultural version of the Three Little Pigs based on the students' own cultural heritage and beliefs.
- Retell the story from the perspective of the "Bad guy."
- Write a fractured fairy tale - http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/fractured_fairy.htm
- Ideas for telling the story in a different way - <http://www.rickwalton.com/curricul/tellpigs.htm>

Here are some different ideas for a **sequel** to the Three Little Pigs:

- The Three Little Pigs do not catch the wolf and search for the wolf until the end of their days!
- After the pig eats the wolf, he gets very sick...
- The Wolf Revenge! The brother of the wolf gets revenge on the Three Little Pigs.

Other ideas or adaptations:

- Author's Night: Create a special night or day when students can show their finished books to their parents, read them to younger students, or create a special event for the books in your classroom.
- Class Mural Story: Each student adds a few sentences and pictures to a long piece of paper to create a mural.

Resources:

Writing Process

- <http://www.angelfire.com/wi/writingprocess/index.html>
- <http://kimskorner4teachertalk.com/> - click on the writing tab
- <http://www.suelebeau.com/writingprocess.htm>

Creative Bookmaking:

- http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/rt_room/sparkers/artist_book/artist_bk.html
- <http://www.makingbooks.com/resources.html>
- <http://www.dickblick.com/lessonplans/handmadebooks/>

A complete lesson plan for students on a Snow White comparison:

<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~kvander/swteach6.html>