

# Tales Twice Told

## Reading Modern Versions of Old Tales

Children listen to and/or read a number of folk/fairytales from various countries and compare and contrast the tales, to modern versions of these tales.

### **Student Outcomes:**

- Children will read/listen to a variety of tales and discuss the similarities/differences between them and modern versions of the same stories.
- Children will write a paragraph telling which version of a story they prefer or which character is more believable.

### **Standards:**

#### **3.0 Literary Response and Analysis**

Students read and respond to a wide variety of significant works of children's literature.

They distinguish between the structural features of the text and literary terms or elements (e.g., theme, plot, setting, characters).

3.2 Comprehend basic plots of classic fairy tales, myths, folktales, legends, and fables from around the world.

3.3 Determine what characters are like by what they say or do and by how the author or illustrator portrays them.

3.4 Determine the underlying theme or author's message in fiction and nonfiction text.

#### **1.0 Writing Strategies**

Students write clear and coherent sentences and paragraphs that develop a central idea. Their writing shows they consider the audience and purpose. Students progress through the stages of the writing process (e.g., prewriting, drafting, revising, editing successive versions).

#### **2.0 Writing Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics)**

Students write compositions that describe and explain familiar objects, events, and experiences.

Student writing demonstrates a command of standard American English and the drafting, research, and organizational strategies outlined in Writing Standard 1.0.

You may want to discuss oral tradition tales before beginning this unit. See Resources List for definitions of a variety of oral tradition stories. This website provides additional lessons in other genres of tales.

### **Lesson**

Read a classic tale and a modern adaptation of it. An example is Cinderella and Cinderella or Dinorella. Another pairing is The three Little Pigs and The True Story of the Three Little Pigs. Other pairs are included in the Tales Twice Bibliography and Modern

Cinderella Bibliography. Discuss with children the differences between the two stories. Children can then write a paragraph explaining their preference for one story or another or they can give their opinion of which version is “true” as in the case of the three pigs’ and the wolf’s version of what happened in the Three Pigs. There is a student work page for who is telling the truth. See Truth.pdf in Student Pages.

Extensions:

Read other tales that have multiple versions. See resources list.

Write your own versions of a tale set in another time.

Have a trial and let the class decide if the wolf is guilty or innocent of charges.

Use Kidspiration or another graphic organizer program to make a Venn Diagram comparing two stories. (See example in Student Pages--ginger venn)

See these for additional ideas in the [Resources Section](#)

[Story Structure Chart](#)

[Bibliographies](#)

- Tales Twice Bibliography
- Modern Cinderella Tales, a List

[Links](#)