

Classic Fairy Tales: 3rd-5th Grade

A RIF Guide for Educators

Themes: Fairy Tales, Fantasy, Magic

Book Brief: This guide is designed for use with books about classic fairy tales at the 3rd to 5th Grade reading level. Adapt the questions and activities in this guide to the book you are reading.

Content Connections: ELA

Time To Read!

Before we read, let's look at...

The Cover: Based on the cover, can you name the classic fairy tale on which this book is based? Is this a traditional retelling or a fractured fairy tale?

Prior Knowledge: What fairy tales do you know from books or movies? Have you heard any versions of this fairy tale before? What do you know about this fairy tale?

Vocabulary: Identify 8-10 words that are likely to be new to your students and introduce them before you read this book with your class.

Purpose for Reading: Classic fairy tales often include a central message, lesson, or moral, and it's important to be able to identify it. As we read, think about what the message, lesson, or moral might be.

While We Read

Monitoring Comprehension

- Retell this story. Include details such as characters, settings, and events.
- Describe the main character. How do his or her actions drive what happens in the story?
- Who is telling this story? Is the narration in the first-person or the third-person?
- How does the narrator's point of view influence the way events are described?
- If there is a villain, compare and contrast the main character with the villain.

Let's Think About

Our Purpose: What is the central message, lesson, or moral of this classic fairy tale? Support your answer with details from the book.

Extending Our Thinking: Choose a version of this fairy tale from another culture to read with your students. Discuss why certain elements differ in the stories. (For example, a magical pumpkin in one story might be a magical turnip in another.) As a class, compose a version of this fairy tale that could be set in your school or town, using local places and items to replace those in the original story.