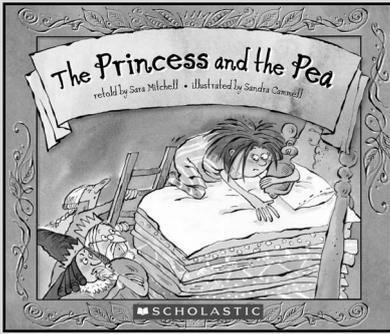


The Princess and the Pea



The Princess and the Pea Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: Year 1, 7a: Identify the main events and characters in stories

Key words: married, couldn't, wanted, mattresses

Cross-curricular/theme links: Traditional stories

Genre: Fiction

NC level: Approximately Level 1B

Assessment: AF2, Level 1: Some simple points from familiar texts recalled

Word count: 286

Getting started

If the children are familiar with the story of *The Princess and the Pea*, ask them to help you briefly recap the main points of the story. Otherwise, read the back cover blurb and page 2, and share the children's predictions about the story. What clues can they find that this is a traditional story?

Guided reading

Pages 2-5: Ask the children where the prince went to, when he was looking for a princess. Remind them to look in the pictures for clues. On page 4, ask: 'How do you think the prince was feeling? What could he try next?'

Pages 6-9: Do the children think this woman will turn out to be a real princess? Ask: 'Do you think the king and queen believe that she is a princess? Would you believe it?'

Pages 10-15: Can the children explain what the queen's plan was, and why the queen ended up believing that the woman really was a princess? Ask: 'How do you think the prince feels about marrying the princess?'

Page 16: Ask: 'Do you think the prince and princess will be happy? Why do you think they kept the pea under glass?'

Speaking and listening

- In pairs, the children could take turns to retell the story to their partners. They can use the pictures in the book as a prompt, if necessary.

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the story.

- What was the prince looking for, at the start of the story?
- How did the queen prove that the woman was a real princess?
- Do you think this was a good way of proving it? Can you think of any other ways that the queen could have checked this?

Reading into writing

In groups or as a whole class, the children could write a 'lonely hearts' advert to help the prince advertise for his ideal princess. Show them some examples of real adverts before they start.

Book quiz for children

- 1 What was the weather like when the princess first came to the castle?
- 2 How many mattresses did the queen put on top of the pea?
- 3 What happened to the pea at the end of the story?

Support for less confident readers

Less confident readers may find it helpful if they have heard a version of the story before they try to read it – so encourage children who are already familiar with the story to retell it in their own words before the group begins to read.

Extension for more confident readers

Children could design their own test to help work out whether someone is a real princess or not!