Animal Fairy Tales

How to use these notes

These teacher notes and independent activities can be used to introduce pupils to the books in the *Animal Fairy Tales* series. These activities are suitable for Reception to Year 2 pupils. All the activities included are stand alone but by using them alongside the books in the series *Animal Fairy Tales*, children can explore the ideas in more detail.

CURRICULUM LINKS

Quoted below are statutory requirements from the programmes of study for Key Stage 1 in the national curriculum in England framework document, July 2013.

EYFS – Communication and Language and Literacy

The early learning goals prime areas:

Communication and language
Listening and attention: children listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events, and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.

Understanding: children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

Speaking: children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs.

KS1 – English

Spoken language

- listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic, and participate in discussions, presentations, performances and debates

Reading – Comprehension

Develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by:

- listening to and discussing a wide range of poems, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently
- being encouraged to link what they read or hear read to their own experiences
- becoming very familiar with key stories, fairy stories and traditional tales, retelling them and considering their particular characteristics

Understand both the books they can already read accurately and fluently and those they listen to by:

- drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher
- discussing the significance of the title and events
- predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- participating in discussion about what is read to them, taking turns and listening to what others say

DISCUSSION POINTS

- Ask the children what fairy tales they know. Where have they come across these fairy tales – have they been told these stories, read them in books or seen them in films? Maybe they have seen a fairy tale performed in a pantomime.

- Discuss their favourite fairy tales and think about the type of characters that often appear in fairy tales, for example, kings, queens, princes and princesses, fairy godmothers, witches, wolves.

- Talk about how many of these well-known stories are hundreds of years old and were originally passed on by storytellers before they were written down. Many stories have changed over the years as different storytellers and writers have made their own changes. If the children are familiar with the film *Shrek*, you could talk about how Princess Fiona is different to lots of typical fairy tale princesses.

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ACTIVITY SHEETS

Activity 1: The brothers Grimm

Read the sheet about the brothers Grimm with the children and ask them to draw a picture of their favourite Grimm's fairy tale.

Activity 2: Author interview

Read the interview with Charlotte Guillain, author of the *Animal Fairy Tales* series, with the children. Talk to the children about what questions they might like to ask Charlotte about the books.

Activity 3: Act it out!

Read *Pandarella* with the children, then put the children into groups of 6 or 7 and give them copies of the play script sheet. Tell each child which part or parts they will play. They can practise reading through the script together before performing it for the rest of the class. You could provide costumes and props and make the animal masks using the printed templates.

WEBSITES

You could visit these websites to find out more about some well-known fairy tales:

http://www.storymuseum.org.uk/1001stories

Visit the Story Museum's website and search for your favourite fairy tale. There are many recordings of storytellers telling these well-known stories.

http://museum.odense.dk/en/knowledge/ knowledge-hans-christian-andersen.aspx

Find out about Hans Christian Andersen and the fairy tales he wrote on this museum website.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/theme/ fairytales/page/1

There are many animated fairy tales on this BBC website.

FURTHER READING

The full list of titles in this series are:

- *Goldiclucks and the Three Bears*
- *Little Red Riding Duck*
- *Pandarella*
- *The Kitten Who Cried Dog*
- *The Poodle and the Pea*

For more information, please visit the website:
http://www.raintreepublishers.co.uk/ product/9781406251241

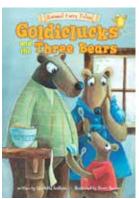You could also read the *Fairytale* series, which includes:

- *Puss in Boots*
- *Sleeping Beauty*
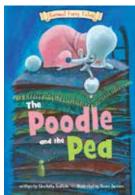- *The Elves and the Shoemaker*
- *The Frog Prince*

Visit: **http://www.raintreepublishers.co.uk/ product/9781406230260**

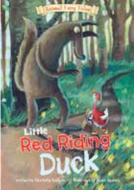*My First Classic Story* series includes:

- *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*
- *The Lion and the Mouse*
- *The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse*
- *The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing*

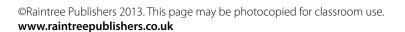Visit: **http://www.raintreepublishers.co.uk/ product/9781406243017**

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Activity 1: The brothers Grimm

Name _____ **Date** _____

About 200 years ago, two brothers lived in the country we now call Germany. Their names were Ludwig and Wilhelm Grimm.

Ludwig and Wilhelm were proud of where they came from. They wanted to write down all the old German stories so that people wouldn't forget them.

Some of the stories the Grimm brothers wrote down were:

- Hansel and Gretel
- Cinderella
- Rapunzel
- Little Red Riding Hood

- Snow White
- Sleeping Beauty
- Rumpelstiltskin

Draw a picture of a favourite moment from one of these fairy tales. Can you tell a friend what happens in the story?

Activity 2: Author interview

Name _____ **Date** _____

Charlotte Guillain has written over 100 books for children, including non-fiction, picture books and stories. Here, she answers some questions about the Animal Fairy Tales series:

Why did you decide to rewrite the fairy tales with animals as the characters?
We thought it would be funny to have animals as the characters in these well-known stories. It was fun choosing which animals suited the characters best. I thought a poodle was the perfect animal to be a princess!

What is your favourite fairy tale?
I like Goldiclucks and the Three Bears best, because I think it's funny how such a tiny chick can destroy so much in the three bears' house!

Which character do you like best?
I love the Furry Godmother the most! I wish I had one – what would you wish for?

Did you draw the pictures in the Animal Fairy Tales books?
No – a fantastic illustrator called Dawn Beacon drew the pictures in the books. I think they are very funny.

What other fairy tale books do you like?
There are so many, it's hard to choose. But I do like The Wrong Princess by Anna Kemp, because the princess doesn't want to be rescued by a prince. She wants to go off and have adventures instead!

What questions would you ask Charlotte?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Activity 3: Act it out!

Characters: Pandarella
                 Stepmother
                 Stepsister 1
                 Stepsister 2
                 Furry Godmother
                 Prince
                 Messenger

AT PANDARELLA'S HOME

Stepmother: Pandarella, make some tea!

Stepsister 1: Pandarella, clean the windows!

Stepsister 2: Pandarella, wash the floor!

Pandarella: Oh dear! I always have to work so hard.

MESSENGER KNOCKS ON THE DOOR

Messenger: Everyone is invited to the royal palace! The prince would like you all to come to a ball.

Pandarella: How exciting!

Stepsister 1 and 2: You can't go, Pandarella!

Stepmother: No, you must stay here and work.

STEPMOTHER AND STEPSISTERS DRESS UP AND GO TO THE BALL. PANDARELLA SITS DOWN AND CRIES.

FLASH OF LIGHT

Furry Godmother: Don't cry Pandarella! You shall go to the ball!

FURRY GODMOTHER WAVES HER WAND AND PANDARELLA HAS A BEAUTIFUL DRESS AND GLASS SLIPPERS

Pandarella: Oh thank you! They're beautiful!

FURRY GODMOTHER WAVES HER WAND AGAIN

Furry Godmother: Go to the ball in this magic carriage. But make sure you come home before the clock strikes midnight !