

Reading and Writing Fables with a Story Map

Goals: Students will learn a strategy to identify the parts of a fable

Objectives: 4th & 5th Grades: 2.05 Make and evaluate inferences, draw conclusions, make generalizations, and support by referencing the text.

4th Grade: 2.06 Summarize major points from fiction and nonfiction text(s) to clarify and retain information and ideas.

4th & 5th Grades: 4.05 Use a variety of preliminary strategies to plan and organize the writing and speaking task considering purpose, audience, and timeline. 4.06 Compose a draft that elaborates on major ideas and adheres to the topic by using an appropriate organizational pattern that accomplishes the purpose of the writing task and effectively communicates its content. 4.07 Compose a variety of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama using self-selected topic and format (e.g., poetry, research reports, news articles, letters to the editor, business letters).

Materials: Fable story map/Story Grammar Organizer; several fables

Attention: Today we will be reading fables. Do you know what a fable is? Have you ever read a fable?

Today we will learn a strategy for how to read a fable. We will read the fable and stop to discuss each part as we find it. Why would it help to learn a strategy for reading stories like fables?

Model/Discuss: *We will use a "story map" as we read. This map shows all of the parts of a fable in the order that authors usually write them. So it will make it easier for us to find and discuss each part. Today I will model how to use the map, then you will help me. Later we will read a fable together and finally you will use the map to read a fable by yourself.*

Discuss how fables are different from other types of stories. The setting is often a fantasy setting (no specific time, e.g. long ago in an imaginary place). The main character is usually an animal that talks like a human. The story teaches a lesson or moral.

Model how to use the map. First, I look at my map. I see all the parts. The first part is the title – *oh that's easy, I just need to read the title* (read title and write it on the title line).

Next I need to find the setting, so I will read the first part of the story. Now I need to think about what a setting is – *it's the place and time* and sometimes a description of the place. In a fable, the setting is often imaginary. So, I need to look for words that tell me where and when the story happens. Now I know the story takes place in. . .and the time is. . .(write information in setting section; if a description of the location is given, discuss and write notes in this section.)