

Lesson: Readers' Theatre

Readers' Theatre is a joint dramatic reading from a script with the emphasis on oral expression. It brings a text to life, offers less confident readers support from peers and provides a social purpose for attentive reading. *Readers' Theatre* benefits students by increasing their skills as readers, listeners and speakers.

ONTARIO CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS:

<p>Language Curriculum Grades 1-2</p> <p>ORAL COMMUNICATION Specific Expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Reflecting on Oral Communication Skills and Strategies 3.22. Listening to Understand 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6 <p>READING Specific Expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Reading for Meaning 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.72. Reading with Fluency 3.1, 3.33. Reflecting in Reading Skills 4.2 <p>Extension</p> <p>THE ARTS AND DRAMA Specific Expectations</p> <p>B1, B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, B3.2</p>
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Following is a *Readers' Theatre* echo poem for the “**Grandmother Wolf**” story contained in the book “*It's Not About The Hunter*”. This script is designed for emergent readers and has been fully classroom tested.

Developing readers in grade one can also use the “**Grandmother Wolf**” script for guided reading, and after they practice and rehearse for fluency and expression in groups of three, they can perform it for their classmates.

Assessment and Evaluation considerations:

Note students' efforts to communicate meaning through voice (volume, pitch, stress), facial expressions and body language.

Observe students' interest in participating

Video record presentations (for students' reference and for parents)

Readers' Theatre for grade 1 as an echo poem:

“GRANDMOTHER WOLF”

From the book: It's Not About the Hunter! by Veronika M. Charles

- (*NARRATION*) Chen's mother went to visit grandma.
- (*REQUEST*) “Don't open the door!” she told him.
- (*NARRATION*) A wolf saw Mother leave.
- (*MYSTERIOUSLY*) He came to the house
(*MYSTERIOUSLY*) and pretended to be Chen's grandma.
- (*NARRATION*) Chen opened the door for him.
- (*SCARY*) It was dark inside the house.
- (*NARRATION*) The wolf climbed into the bed.
- (*WHISPERING*) “This is *not* my real grandma!”
thought Chen.
- (*CHEERFUL*) “I'll bring you some nuts from outside!”
he said.
- (*URGENTLY*) Chen got a kettle of hot oil
(*URGENTLY*) and climbed a tree with it.
- (*NARRATION*) The wolf came looking for the boy.
- (*CHEERFUL*) “Stand under the tree!” Chen told him,
(*CHEERFUL*) “I'll drop you some nuts.”
- (*EXCITED*) *Whoosh!* Chen poured the oil on the wolf.
- (*RELIEVED*) The wolf died and Chen was safe.
- (*NARRATION*) When Mother returned,
(*NARRATION*) Chen told her what happened.