

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* script for the “**Three Sisters**” story contained in the book “*It's Not About The Apple*”. This script has been fully classroom tested.

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 of: THREE SISTERS
(*Snow White* from Greece)
From the book: It's Not About the Apple!
By Veronika Martenova Charles

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Narrator 1	Giants
Narrator 2	Prince
2 Sisters	Sun & Tree
Kay	All (Everybody in unison)

Narrator 1: Once, there were three sisters who were orphans.

Narrator 2: One morning they went out to watch the sunrise.
The older sisters asked,

2 Sisters: Sun, who is the best of us all?

Narrator 1: And the sun replied,

Sun: One is as good as the other,
but the youngest is best of all.

Narrator 2: The older sisters were jealous.

All: They made a plan to get rid of their younger sister Kay.

2 Sisters: Our mother has been dead so long,

Narrator 1: they told Kay.

2 Sisters: It's time she had a proper grave.
Tomorrow, we must go up to the mountains
and rebury her.

Narrator 2: Kay believed them.

Kay: I'll bake some bread to take along the way.

All: The next morning, the sisters set off.
They walked through the mountains
and stopped under a tree.

2 Sisters: This is where our mother lies,

Narrator 1: said the older sisters.

2 Sisters: But we forgot the shovel! Kay, you stay here
while we go and get it.

Narrator 1: And the older two left Kay alone.

All: Kay waited until the sun set. Then she began to cry.

Tree: Don't cry,

Narrator 2: a tree told her.

Tree: Drop the bread you're holding
and follow where it goes.
You will find a place to stay.

Narrator 1: Kay let the bread roll down the mountain.
It led her to a canyon.

All: There she saw a house carved into the mountain.
Kay went in but no one was home.

Kay: Look at these huge pots in the kitchen!
And there is food in the cellar! I will cook a meal.

Narrator 2: So Kay cooked a dinner, ate a little,
and then fell asleep inside a cupboard.

All: At midnight, three giants came in.

Giants: Who has done this for us?

Narrator 1: they asked.

Giants: Do not be afraid to come out.
If you are a man, be our brother.
If you are a woman, be our sister.

All: Kay climbed out of the cupboard.

Kay: It was I who made this meal.

Narrator 2: Then the giants said,

Giants: You're welcome to stay with us
and be in charge of our house.

All: The next time the sisters asked who was the best,
the sun replied the same way as before.

2 Sisters: Kay must still be alive!
Let's get rid of her for good.

All: The sisters made a poisoned ring.
They returned to the mountains.
and found the giants' house.

Narrator 1: They knocked on the door.
BANG! BANG!

2 Sisters: Are you there, Kay?
It's us, your sisters.

Narrator 1: Kay opened the door.

2 Sisters: We brought you a present.

Narrator 2: They gave Kay the ring.
When she put it on, she fainted.

All: That night, the giants found Kay on the ground.
They couldn't revive her,
so they put her in a golden casket
and floated it down the river.

Narrator 1: As it happened, a prince rode by
just as the box floated past in the river.

Prince: I wonder what it is?
I'll take it to the palace.

All: At home, he opened the golden box and found the lifeless girl inside.

Prince: Who is she? Maybe her name is on the ring.

All: The prince pulled the ring off Kay's finger.

Kay: *AHHH!*

Narrator 1: Kay sighed and started to breathe.

Narrator 2: She told the prince what happened, and he was touched by her tale.

All: When the sisters found out Kay was alive and lived in a palace, their hearts burned up with envy, and no one heard from them again.