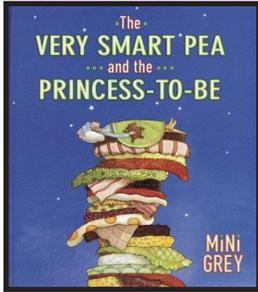


CRUCHLEY'S COLLECTION



Diana Cruchley is an award-winning educator and author, who has taught at elementary, secondary, and university levels. Her enthusiastically-received and practical workshops include detailed handouts.

©2013. Diana Cruchley. dcruchley@gmail.com



The pea under the mattress writes a memoir of his attempt to help the prince find a “real princess.” Eventually the gardener’s girl who raised the pea lies on the twenty mattresses and he whispers, “You are very uncomfortable,” in her ear all night. She repeats this to the queen in the morning and marries the prince. The pea lives on in the royal museum.

Mini Grey, Alfred A. Knopf ©2003

ISBN 0-375-82626-2 (trade) and

0-375-92626-7 (library)

FAIRY TALE RECIPES

The pea is brought to the palace for a special recipe of Pea and Raspberry Jelly. Bring sample recipes from various cookbooks into class and ask the students to identify the critical elements of a recipe: Title, ingredients list with measurements needed, temperature of oven, dry ingredients instructions, wet ingredients instructions, combining, length of cooking, preparing the pan (grease, line, etc.), how many it serves, and so on.

Then brainstorm appropriate recipes for different fairy tales: Gingerbread for the Gingerbread Boy or Hansel and Gretel, Porridge for Goldilocks, Candied Apples for Snow White, Pumpkin Pie for Cinderella, etc. Create a class fairy tale cookbook by importing a picture of a cover of the fairy tale book, a summary of the story in 10 lines, a title for the recipe and instructions for cooking. A class book of recipes for the library would be fun.

THE MAGIC CREATIVITY BAG

A creativity bag contains a series of interesting objects. It has many uses in writing comparisons, poetry writing, creativity exercises, etc., but one of its great uses is for students to reach in and choose an object at random. Some sample small objects are shown on this page. Students then have to generate a great story about how that object ended up being an “artifact” in a Fairy Tale Museum.



ARTIFACT

The pea becomes an “artifact” in the royal museum. The word comes from the Latin word arte meaning “by skill.” An artifact is any human-made object which illustrates something about a culture. It is studied by archeologists and then often displayed in museums. In fantasy games, an artifact is an object from a long-lost culture that has magic powers. Your class could construct a “museum” of artifacts for their year - songs, favourite foods, favourite commercials. Alternatively a class museum can be constructed by each student bringing an artifact that has associations for him/her and displaying it with a poster describing its “archeological meaning” from their life.

THE VERY SMART PEA AND THE PRINCESS TO BE, P.2

BEING SMART

Working in small groups, students find synonyms for being smart: intelligent, genius, clever, sly, educated, wise, brainy, etc. They then look at the connotations of the word and sort the words from the one they feel is the most positive to the least positive.

Next, they might write a paragraph imagining that in their fairy tale the wizard offers a choice of three things: being rich, being athletic, or being intelligent. Which would they pick and why? Finally, they might write a fairy tale in which the wizard has granted them their choice and now they must follow the consequences of their choice. (As an introduction, this is a good time to tell them the story of Paris and Helen of Troy. Three goddesses offered Paris three choices: wealth, military prowess, or the most beautiful woman in the world. The Illiad is the story of the consequences of that choice.)

THE SCIENCE OF THE PEA

Students could use "rapid research" on the internet to find pictures as well as information on the history of the pea, its nutritional value, how it is eaten, and famous associations of the pea (such as with Mendel, in the case of the pea, or in a nursery rhyme or song), a book cover for the fairy tale (from the internet) and a summary of the fairy tale. See the box on this page for a short example.

Other "foods in fairy tales" include: The Giant Turnip, Jack and the Beanstalk, Snow White's apple, and Cinderella's pumpkin. The class could be divided into five groups. each creating a food-in-fairy tales poster.

This "rapid research" project can be completed in one period - with the poster as a homework assignment.

the pea



eating peas

A pea is the small, edible round green [bean](#) cooked as a [vegetable](#) in many cultures. Peas usually grow on a vine that coils around any available support. In medieval times, before refrigeration, the dried pea was an important part of the diet. By the 1600's it became fashionable to eat them "green" or freshly picked. Once canning and freezing were invented, eating "green" peas became the most common way to eat them. Also popular, originating with Chinese stir fry, is to eat the pods as the peas just begin to form. A popular soup, especially in Quebec is the split pea and ham soup made from dried peas. The wasabi pea is a dried pea coated with asian horseradish called wasabi. It is eaten as a snack.

famous peas

Three of the early laws of genetics were found by Gregor Mendel in his studies of peas. The most famous pea of all, of course, is the one at the bottom of the twenty mattresses in the story The Princess and the Pea. Another famous pea is the one in the nursery rhyme "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold. Peas porridge in the pot, nine days old." This rhyme goes back to the Middle Ages.



the princess and the pea



The prince of a wealthy kingdom searched high and low for a "real" princess. One stormy night a girl appeared at the castle door claiming to be a real princess. The queen put a pea under 20 mattresses to test her. The next morning the queen asked, "How did you sleep?" The princess replied, "I scarcely closed my eyes. Something hard was in the bed and I am black and blue all over." The wedding took place the next day.

