

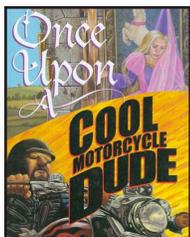


CRUCHLEY'S COLLECTION

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

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ONCE UPON A COOL MOTORCYCLE DUDE



A pair of students have to create and tell a fairy tale to the class and are in serious dispute as to the direction the plot will take. The girl wants it traditional; the boy

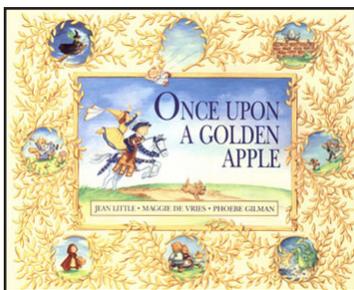
wants it cool.

Kevin O'Malley, Walker and Co, 2005, ISBN 10: 0-8027-8947-1

ONCE UPON A...

Another book with the same premise of a boy and a girl wanting different turns in the plot is *Once Upon a Golden Apple*.

Read both of them to the students and ask students to create their own scenario for a "conflicting collaboration" on a story. They could be making up an excuse for why they came home late from school, explaining how it was that the teacher happened to give them a detention, throwing a birthday party, washing a car, or even creating a different fairy tale, etc.



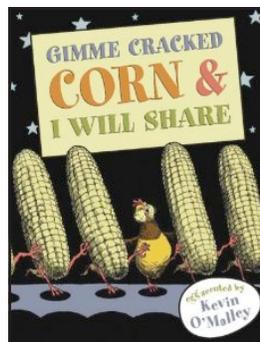
STEREOTYPE

These characters are quite stereotyped - it might be a good time to talk about what that is, and look for examples in the story. Point out that the story could have been just as interesting if the boy were the conventional one and the girl the adventurer.

KEVIN O'MALLEY'S BOOKS

Kevin O'Malley is an illustrator and author of many books. Three of his titles are:

- *Gimme Cracked Corn and I Will Share* (two hens cross the road to follow their dream to a treasure of cracked corn)
- *Herbert Fieldmouse: Secret Agent*
- *Leo Cockroach: Toy Tester*



THE CLIFF HANGER GAME

Divide the class into teams of 4 or 6. Each team starts with a "cliff-hanger" - "Once upon a time there was a boy named John who was very happy until the day he stepped off..." The next student takes over and keeps the plot going for a few sentences ending in another "cliff hanger".

Encourage students to jot a few notes about good plot turns so that they can take the best parts and individually write a story.

PERSONAL WRITING

A springboard from a picture book to personal writing should provide at least three topics if possible. Here are some ideas:

1. Think about the movies of Disney or Pixar that you have seen. Which ones? What do you like about each? Where you see them? Which is your favourite? Is there one you don't like?
2. The best assignment(s) you ever had in school.
3. Presentations you have made (whether in school or out of school).