Imagine Your Story!

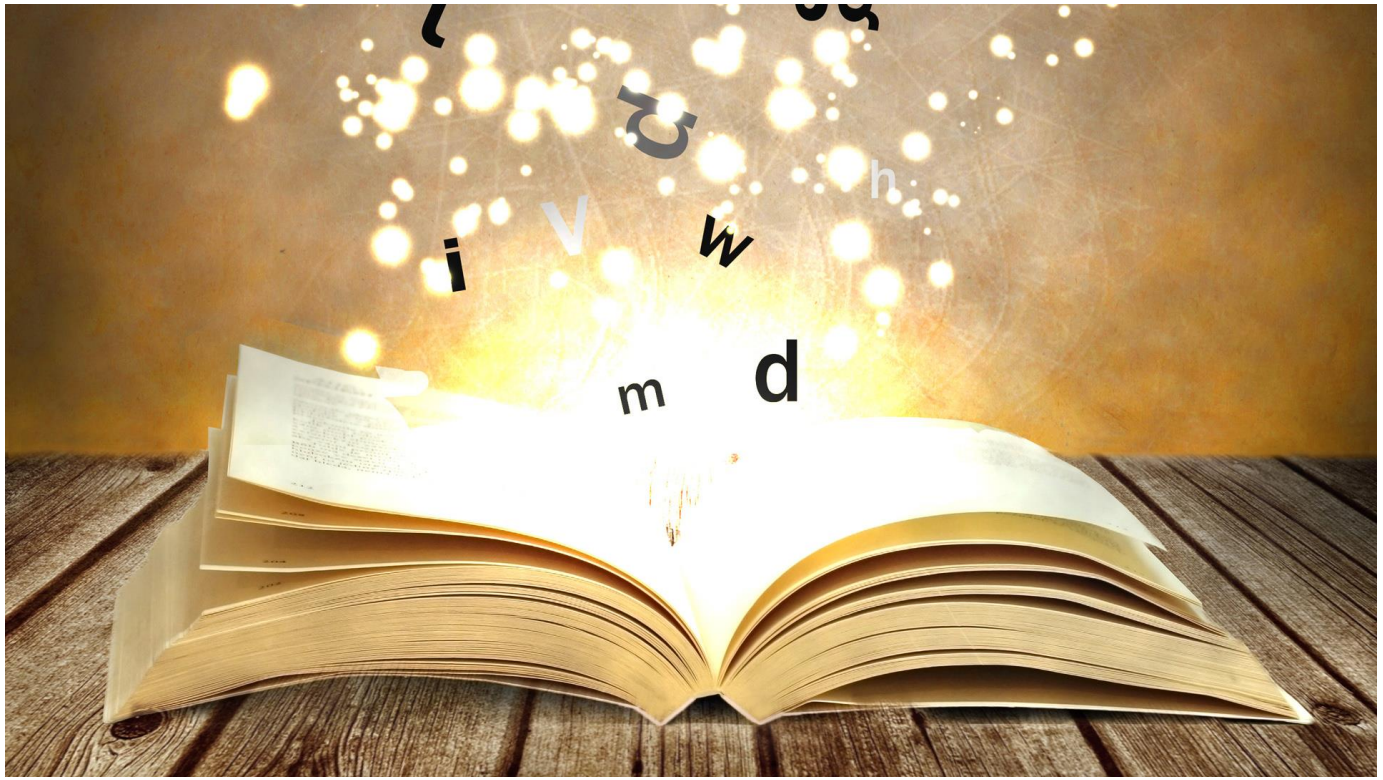
2020 Summer Library Program Workshop

IMAGINE YOUR STORY

Imagine a story, imagine a tale
Imagine a story, imagine a tale
Imagine a magical wishing well
Imagine a magical wishing well
Imagine a castle, a rocket, a king
Imagine a castle, a rocket, a king
READ and imagine ANY ole' thing!
READ and imagine ANY ole' thing!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
YOUR STORY!
YOUR STORY!

STORYTELLING 101

Storytelling is the Most Useful, Flexible, Cost-Effective Skill in Library Programming!



WHY STORYTELLING?

- Storytelling works for all audiences -- infant, toddler, preK, school-age, special needs, ESL, tweens and teens, adult and family

- Offers multiple options for interaction: Creative drama, puppets, singing, discussion, drawing…and develops curiosity, which leads to learning: Talk, read, write, play, sing…+ sensory
- Has multiple applications in public library children's services

THERE'S ONLY ONE RULE: STORIES MUST BE ONES YOU LOVE!

FINDING A STORY TO TELL: This summer's theme focuses on folktales, fairytales, legends, myths. The theme is divided into six sub-themes which we'll refer to throughout the workshop:

- **A New Twist on an Old Tale (mixed-up fairytales, retelling and interpretations)**
- **Hero's Journey**
- **Magical Creatures**
- **Timeless Tales (genealogy, local legends)**
- **Common Threads (tales told in many countries, slight costume/weaving theme)**
- **Once Upon a Time (fairytales)**

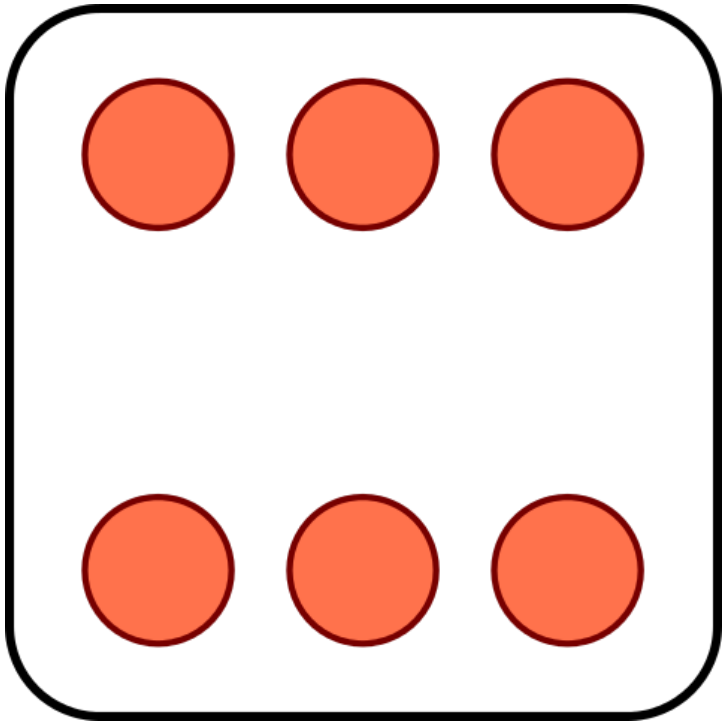
- But first….

DISCOVER YOUR STORIES!

SCAR-Y STORIES

ROLL-A-STORY

- 1 = a story about the best or worst thing you ever tasted
- 2 = a story about the best or worst thing you ever smelled
- 3 = a story about the best or worst thing you ever saw
- 4 = a story about the best or worst thing you ever heard
- 5 = a story about the best or worst thing you ever touched
- 6 = a story about water

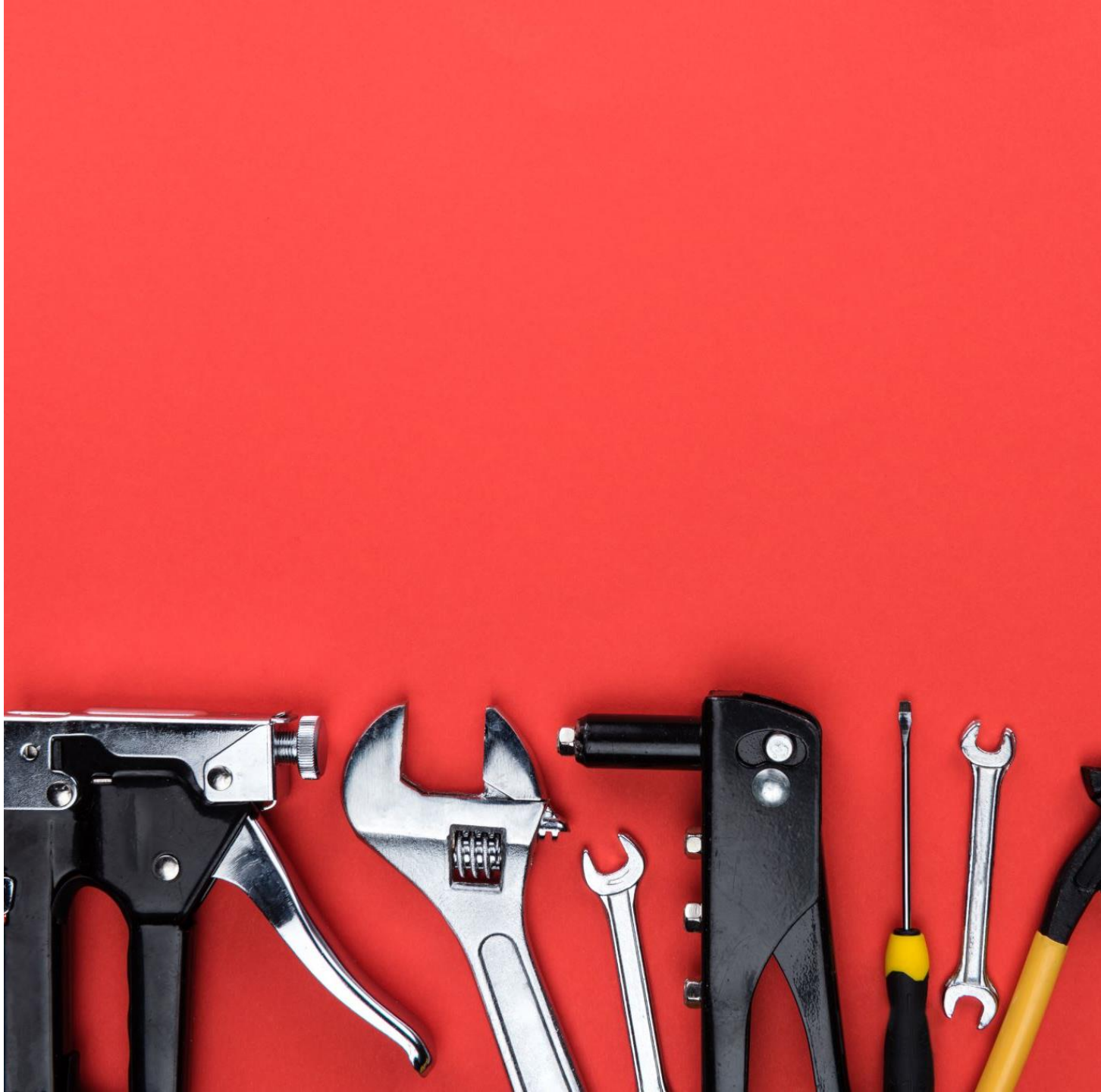


How can these activities work in programming? How can they apply to the sub-themes?

- A New Twist on an Old Tale (mixed-up fairytales, retelling and interpretations)
- Hero's Journey
- Magical Creatures
- Timeless Tales (genealogy, local legends)
- Common Threads (tales told in many countries, slight costume/weaving theme)
- Once Upon a Time (fairytales)

THE STORYTELLER'S TOOLBOX

- IMAGINATION
- VOICE
- SOUNDS
- BODY



GRANDMOTHER SPIDER

- Where does the story take place?
- What happens to the light?
- Who knows and tells the others?
- Who goes first / why does he/she fail?
- Who goes second / why does he/she fail?
- Who goes last / how does he/she get the sun back into the sky?

REFLECTION

How can this exercise be used in programming?

How does it apply to the sub-themes?

STORYTELLING IS FOR EVERYONE!

- Use puppets, props and sensory techniques for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and children with special needs.

- Provide participatory storytelling options for preschool and primary grades

- SOME EXAMPLES…

REPETITION OF PHRASES & ACTIONS

CHARACTER VOICES

Baby Hawk Learns to Fly

- GLOVE PUPPETS
- REPETITION; PREDICTABILITY
- CHARACTER VOICES

Baby Blackbirds

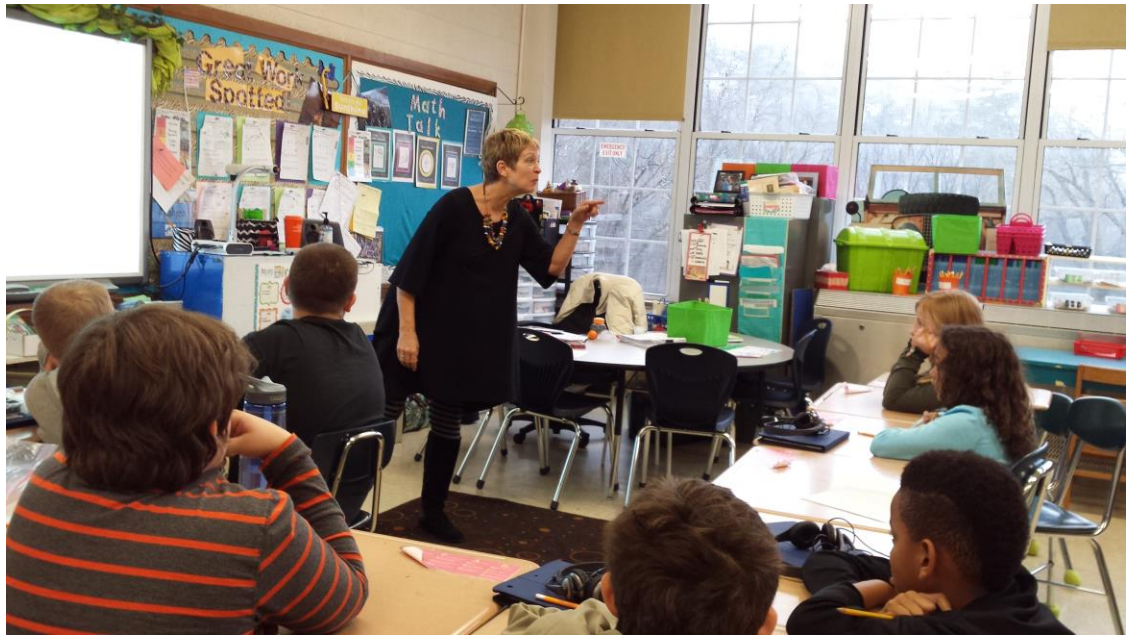
AMY AND THE CROSSNORE

- Participation options (singing, actions, sound effects)
- Character Voices
- Music

SCHOOL VISITS

Tell a Story!

Perfect for individual classroom visits as well as full assembly presentations!



Reader's Theatre!

Put teachers on-stage beside you and the kids' attention will be rivetted!

SCHOOL VISITS

ONE-PERSON PUPPET SHOW

KICK-OFF EVENTS

Once Upon a Time Storytelling Festival

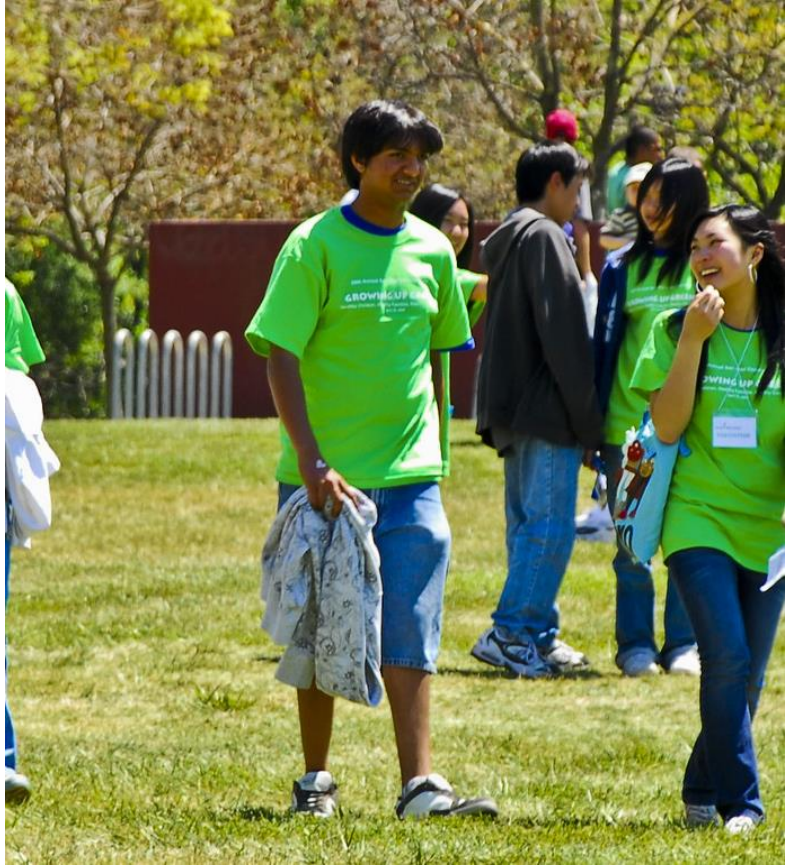
Fun for the Entire Community

- be the storyteller
- hire some storytellers (see Find a Storyteller https://storynet.org/find-a-storyteller/)
- train teens to tell stories
- invite your fellow librarians to tell stories

FAIRYTALE PARTY

Early Childhood kickoff event

Fairytale Puppet Station
Fairytale Treats
Fairytale Dress-Up Race



BEGIN THE HERO'S JOURNEY!

Tween/Teen Kickoff Event:

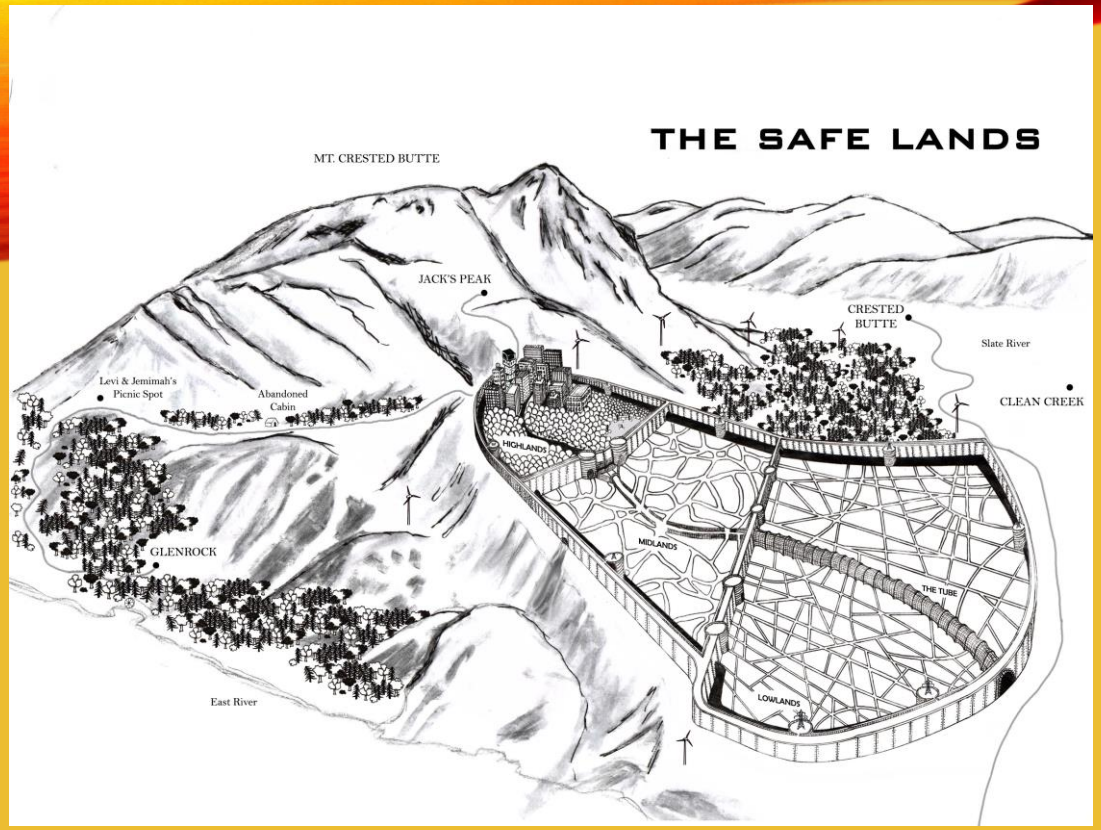
Party for a Cause

DECORATIONS

This giant storybook is customizable – expensive but spectacular! Other decorations from this website are more affordable.

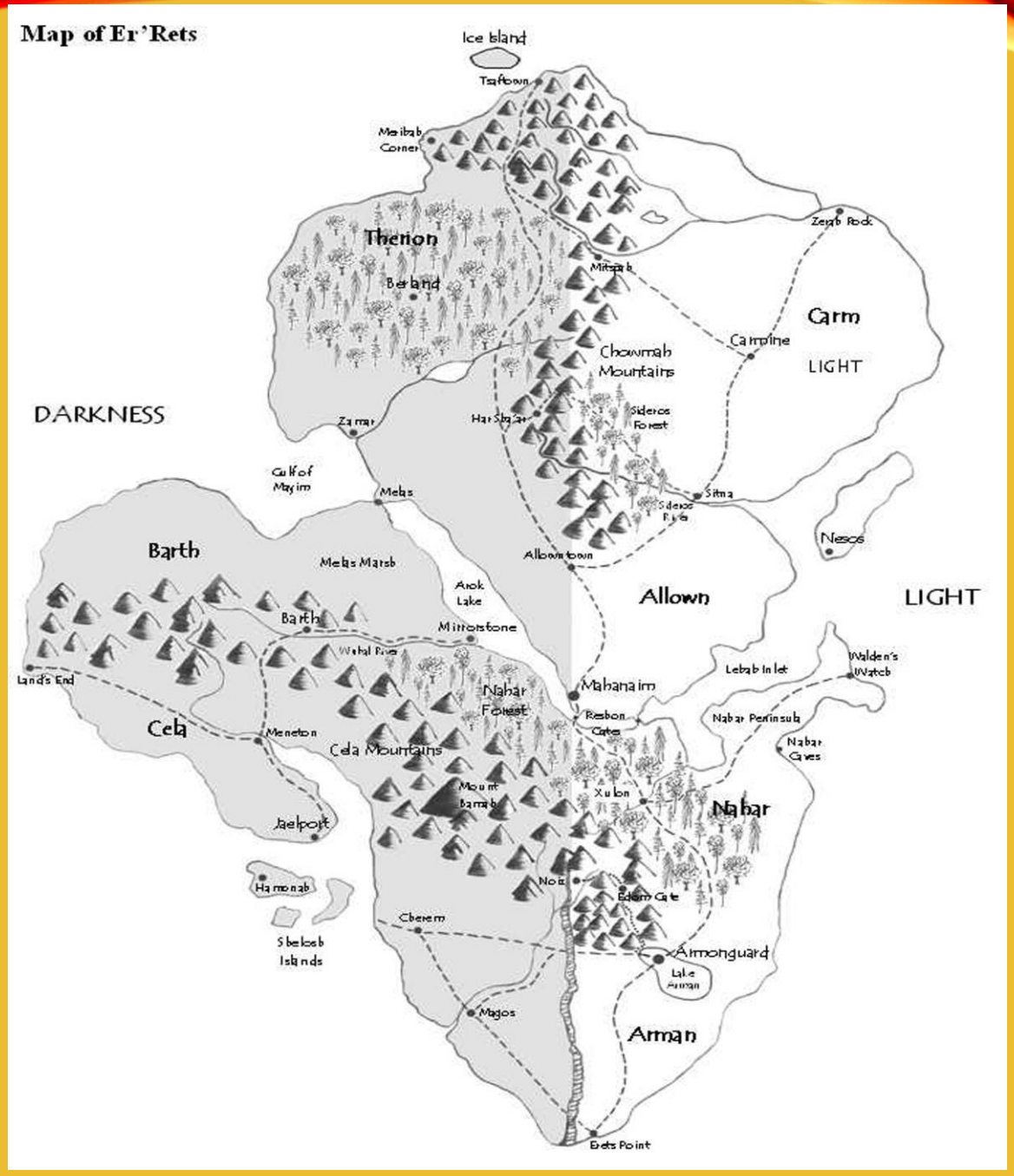
This Fantasy Forest Hanging Tapestry is very reasonable and quite striking!

Display magic wands, dragon footprints, Harry Potter memorabilia, mythological labyrinth, magical creatures (unicorns, dragons, fairies, mermaids, etc.)…endless possibilities!



Young Adult Décor

Fantasy Worlds: several months before the SRP begins, sponsor a Fantasy World Map-Making program, then hold a contest for tweens and teens to create maps or posters of their favorite fantasy worlds found in books. Use them to decorate the YA room -- and to spread around town to advertise the SRP!



PROGRAMMING!

“WHAT WOULD A STORYTELLER DO?”

NOTE: Storytelling can be a FACET of the program -- introducing a program, guest, craft or activity! Suggested intro stories will be provided for each theme.

A NEW TWIST ON AN OLD TALE

(MIXED-UP FAIRYTALES, RETELLING AND INTERPRETATIONS)

Intro story: *Three Little Fish and the Big Bad Shark*

THREE LITTLE WHATZITS CRAFT AND STORYTELLING

FRACTURING A FAIRYTALE

- Girl / boy named (size word)_____ (color word) _____
- (action word) _____ (clothing word) _____
- Who did s/he live with _____? Who did s/he visit? _____
- Why? _____ What's in the basket? _____
- Why did s/he go off the path? _____
- Who is the Big Bad _____?
- Where did the Big Bad _____ hide the person who lived o the other side of the woods? _____

CONVERSATION:

(Kid's initials)_____ said, "Why _____, what _____ you have!"

"The better to _____," said _____ (Big Bad's initials).

(Kid's initials)_____ said, "Why _____, what _____ you have!"

"The better to _____," said _____ (Big Bad's initials).

(Kid's initials)_____ said, "Why _____, what _____ you have!"

"The better to _____," said _____ (Big Bad's initials).

Who rescued them? _____ _____

How? _____ and they lived Happily Ever After!

DIGITAL STORYTELLING FOR TWEENS & TEENS

SPOKEN WORD & POETRY

Tweens & Teens write &/or perform

THE THREE BEARS RAP

HERO'S JOURNEY

Intro story

I Can't Pay the Rent

GAME-WRITING TWEENS & TEENS

Check out open-source tools for telling interactive, nonlinear stories.

CREATE-A-(SUPER)HERO COSTUME CONTEST

Teams create costumes with found materials; end with a parade. Don't forget to name the heroes!

ANANSI THE SPIDER

THE 12 LABORS OF HERCULES GAMES

A-MINUTE-TO-WIN-IT GAMES

HERO/VILLAIN/HELPER PAPERCUP PUPPETS

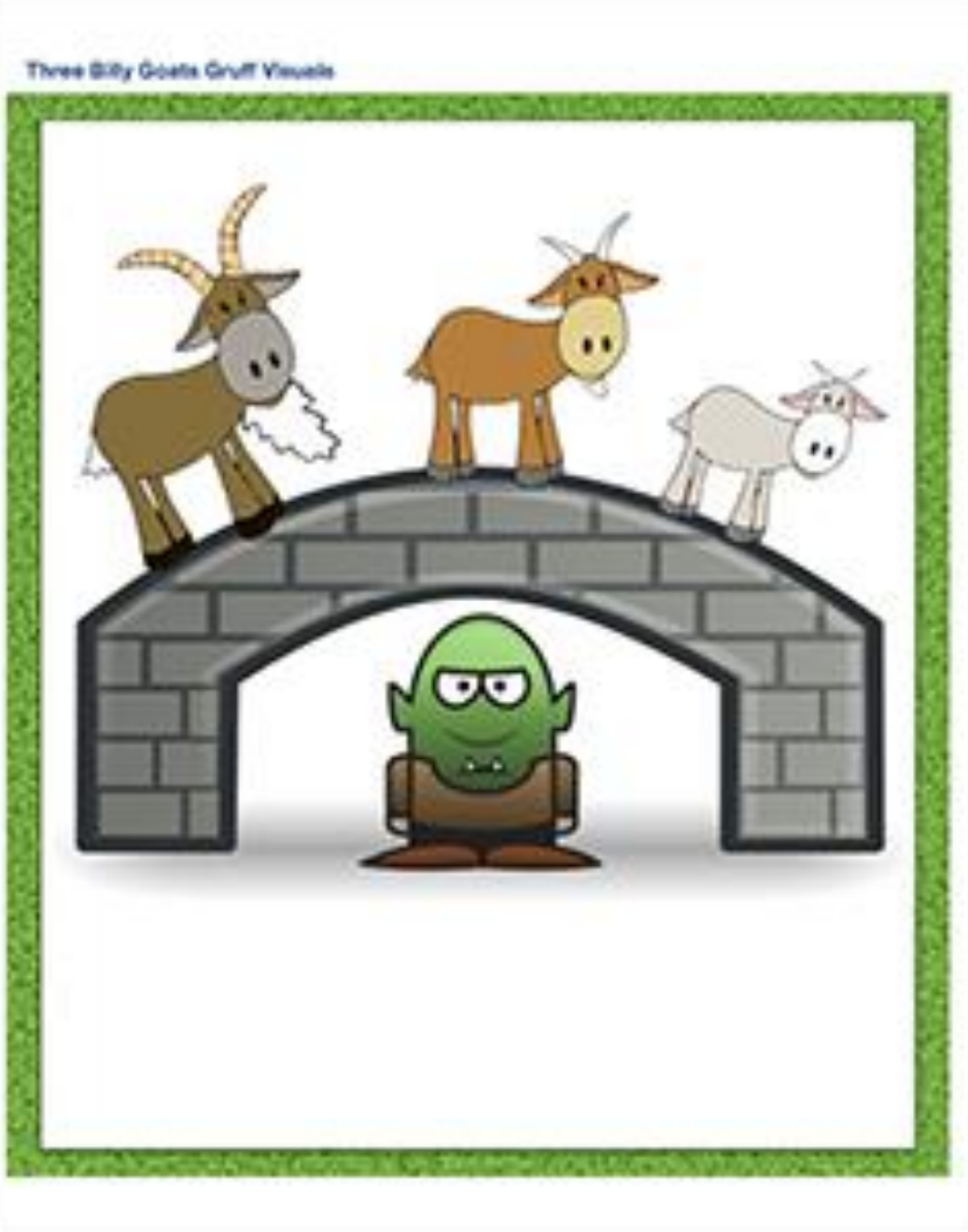
STORY HEROES CAMP

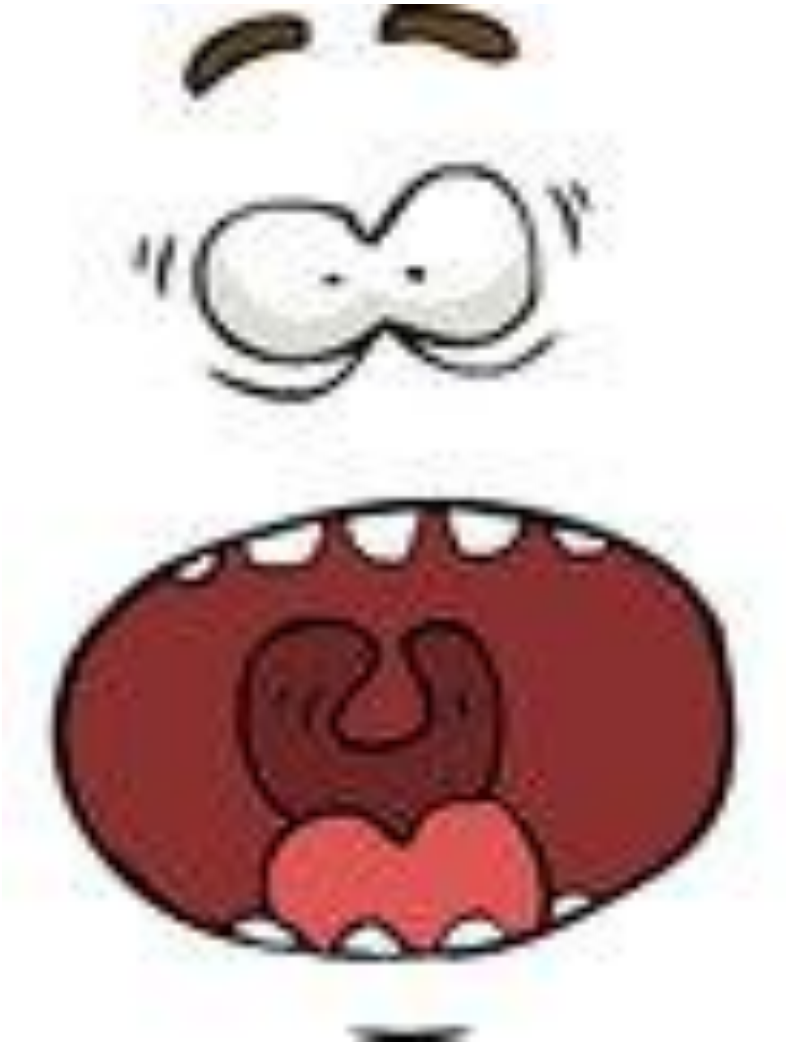
Tweens and teens learn to tell stories and/or put on puppet plays for the younger children

MAGICAL CREATURES

<u>Intro story</u>

Three Billy Goats Gruff





G.H.O.S.T. CAMP FOR TWEENS & TEENS

GHOST, HORROR OR SCARY TALES

Sody Sallyraytus

by Teri Sloat

Paper plate dragons

Fairy wands

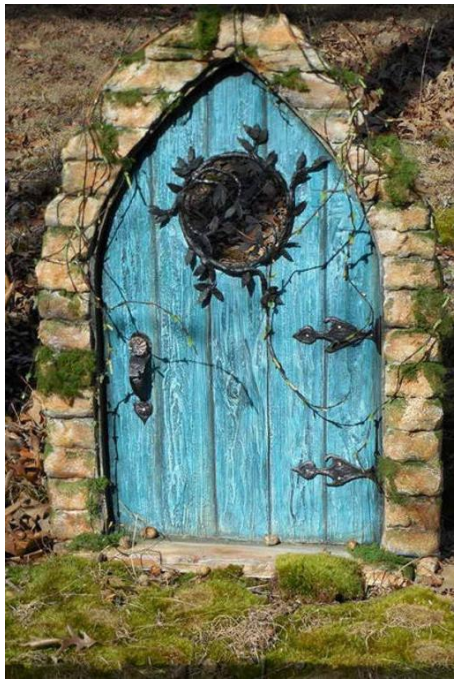
CosPlay Corner

TIMELESS TALES

(GENEALOGY, LOCAL LEGENDS)

Intro story

"Special Sausage"



“DOORS”

Creating stories with kids of all ages

COMMON THREADS

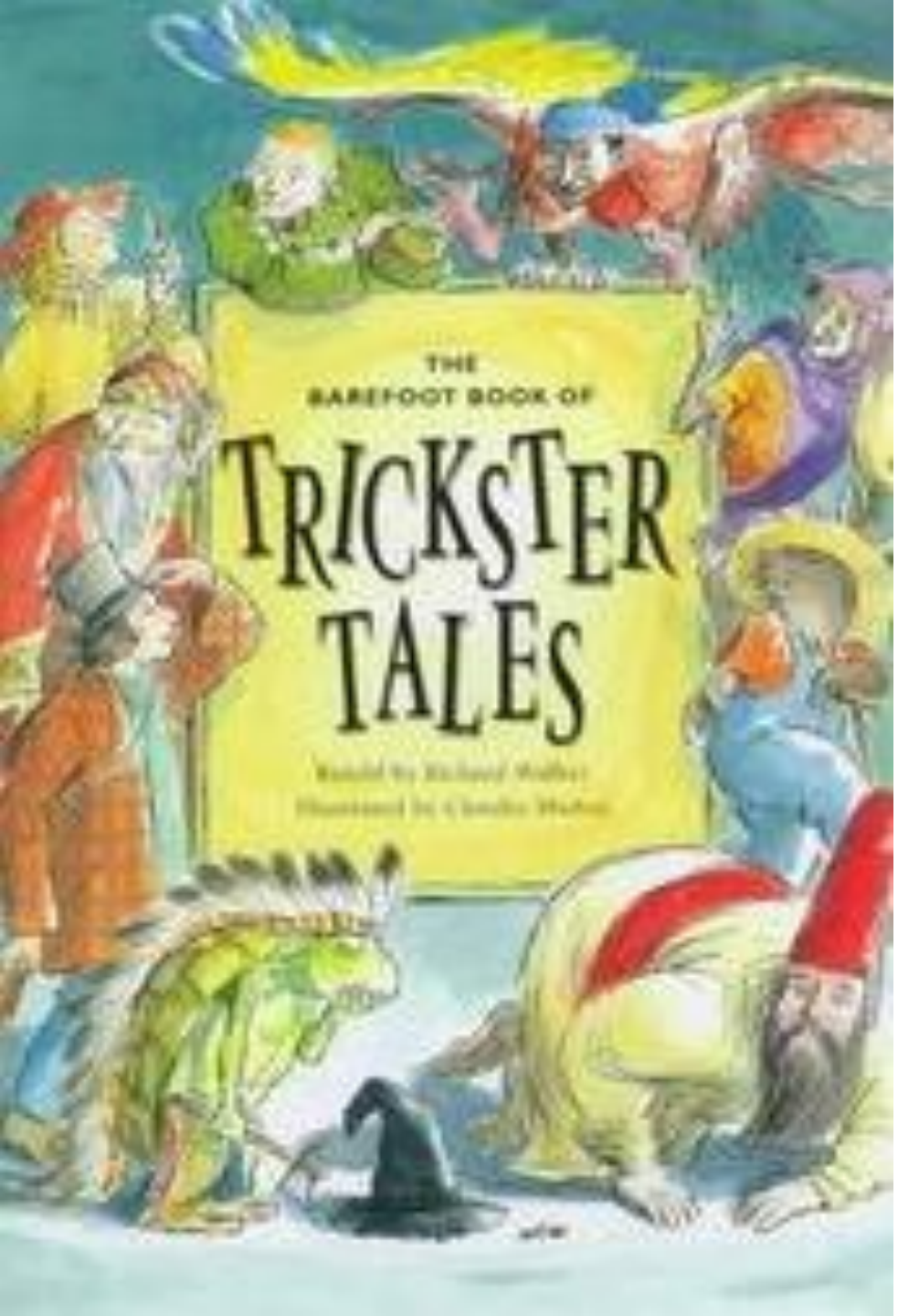
TALES TOLD IN MANY COUNTRIES, SLIGHT COSTUME/WEAVING THEME

<u>Intro story</u>

Grandmother Spider

Or

It Could Always Be Worse



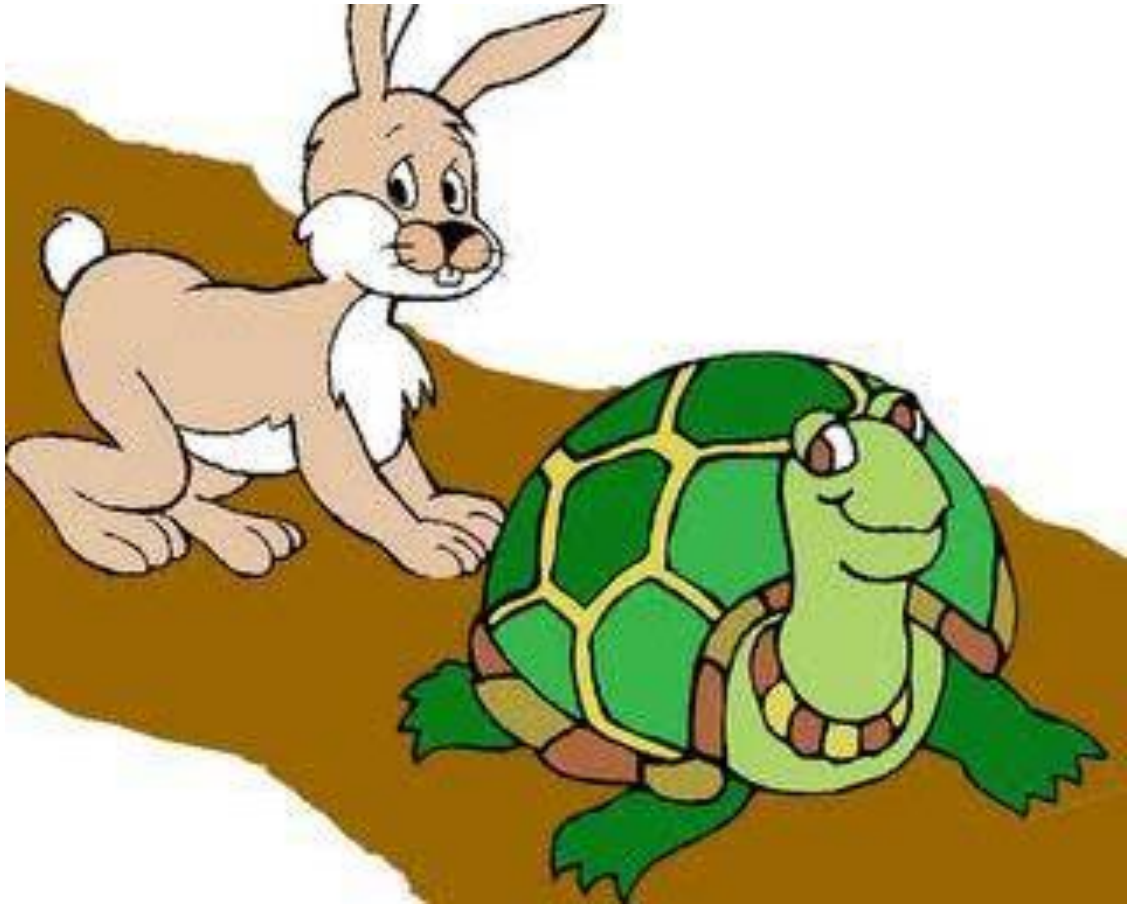
TRICKSTER TALES

Br'er Rabbit, Kantchil the Mouse Deer, Anansi the Spider…all brothers under the skin!

ONCE UPON A TIME
FAIRYTALES & FANTASY

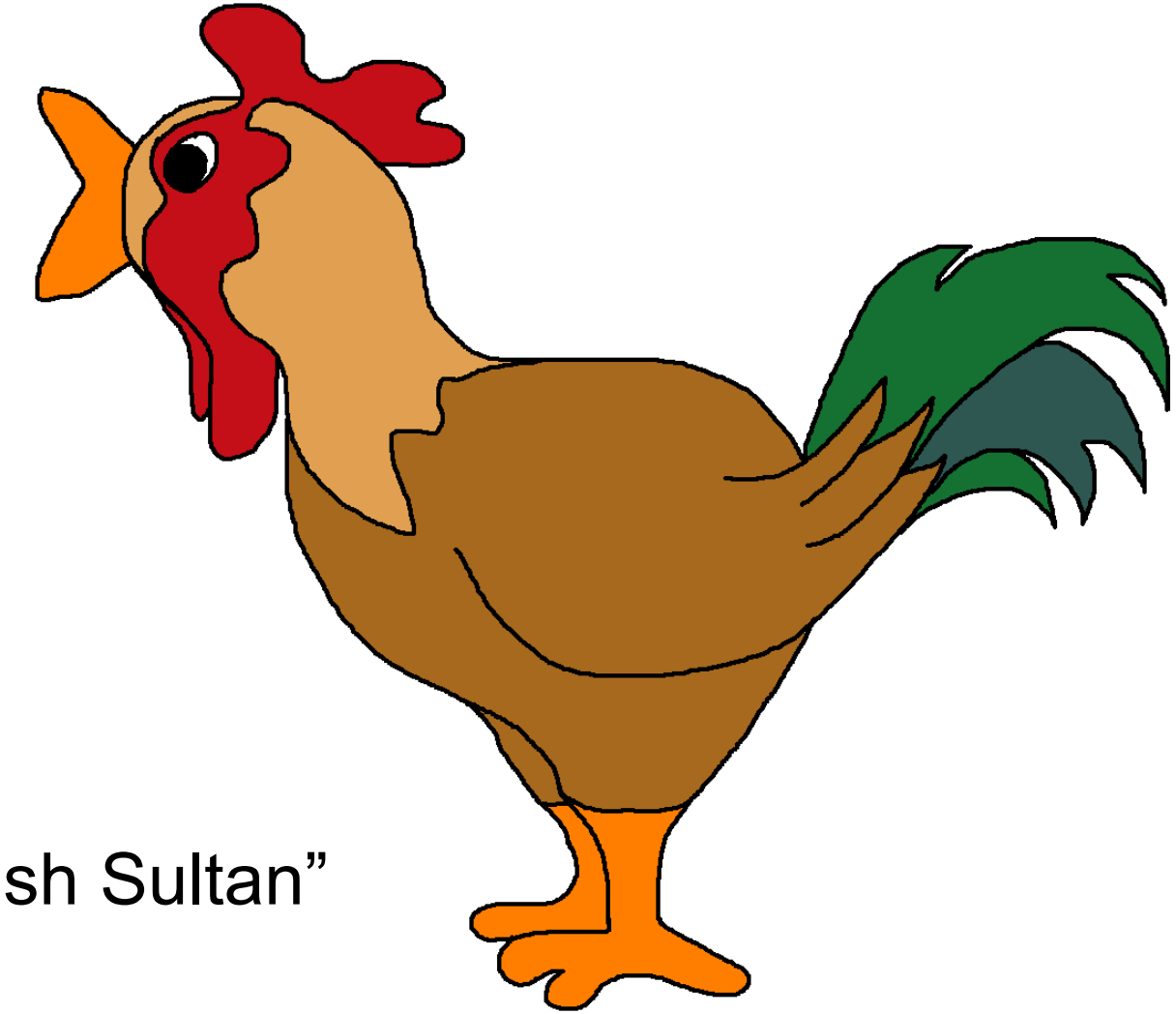
<u>Intro story</u>

Anything from Margaret Read MacDonald's *Three Minute Tales* or *Five Minute Tales*



ONE-PERSON PUPPET SHOWS

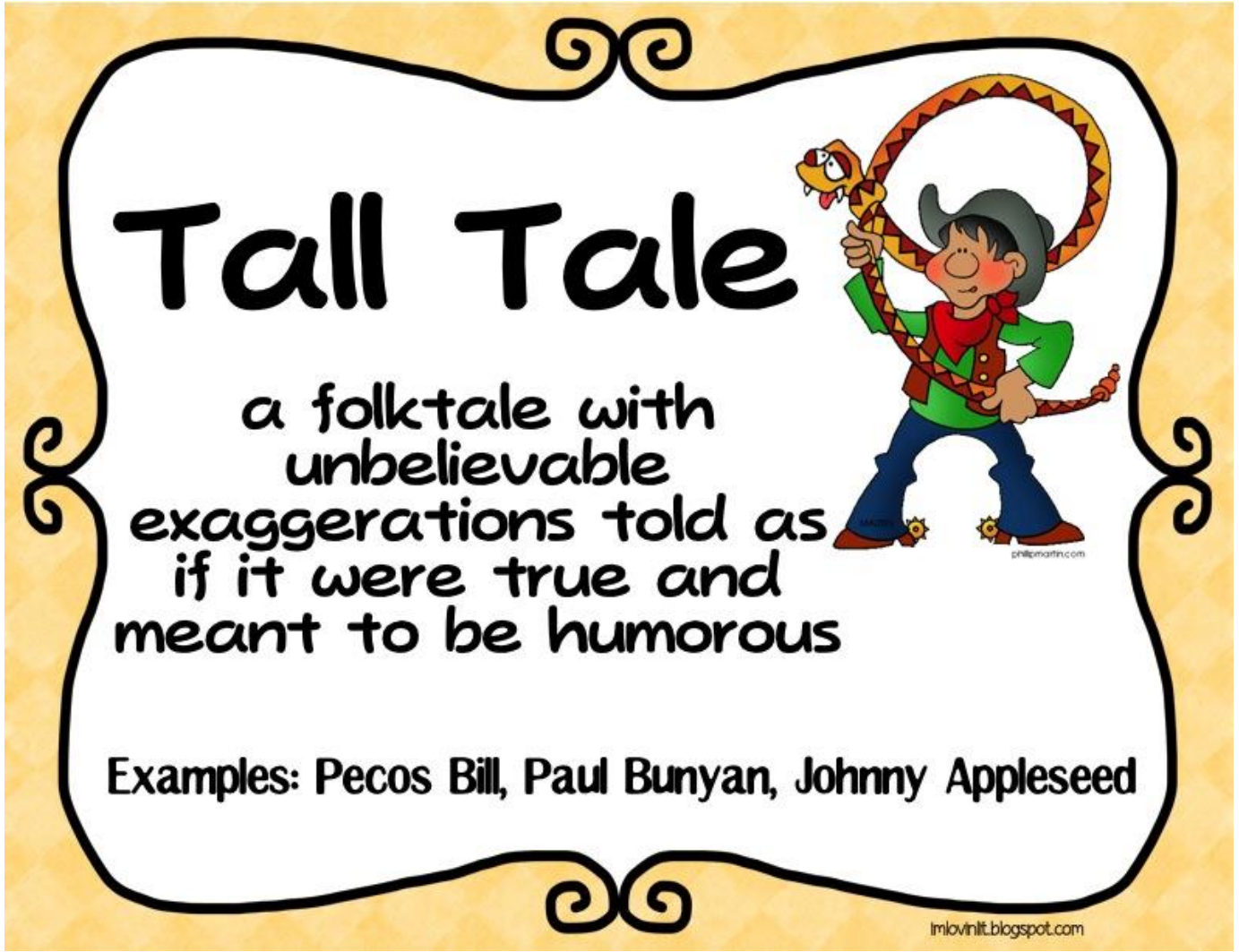
AESOP FABLES



Creative drama:
“The Little Rooster and the Turkish Sultan”

Tall Tale Telling Contest/Liars Contest

Tweens,teens and adults!

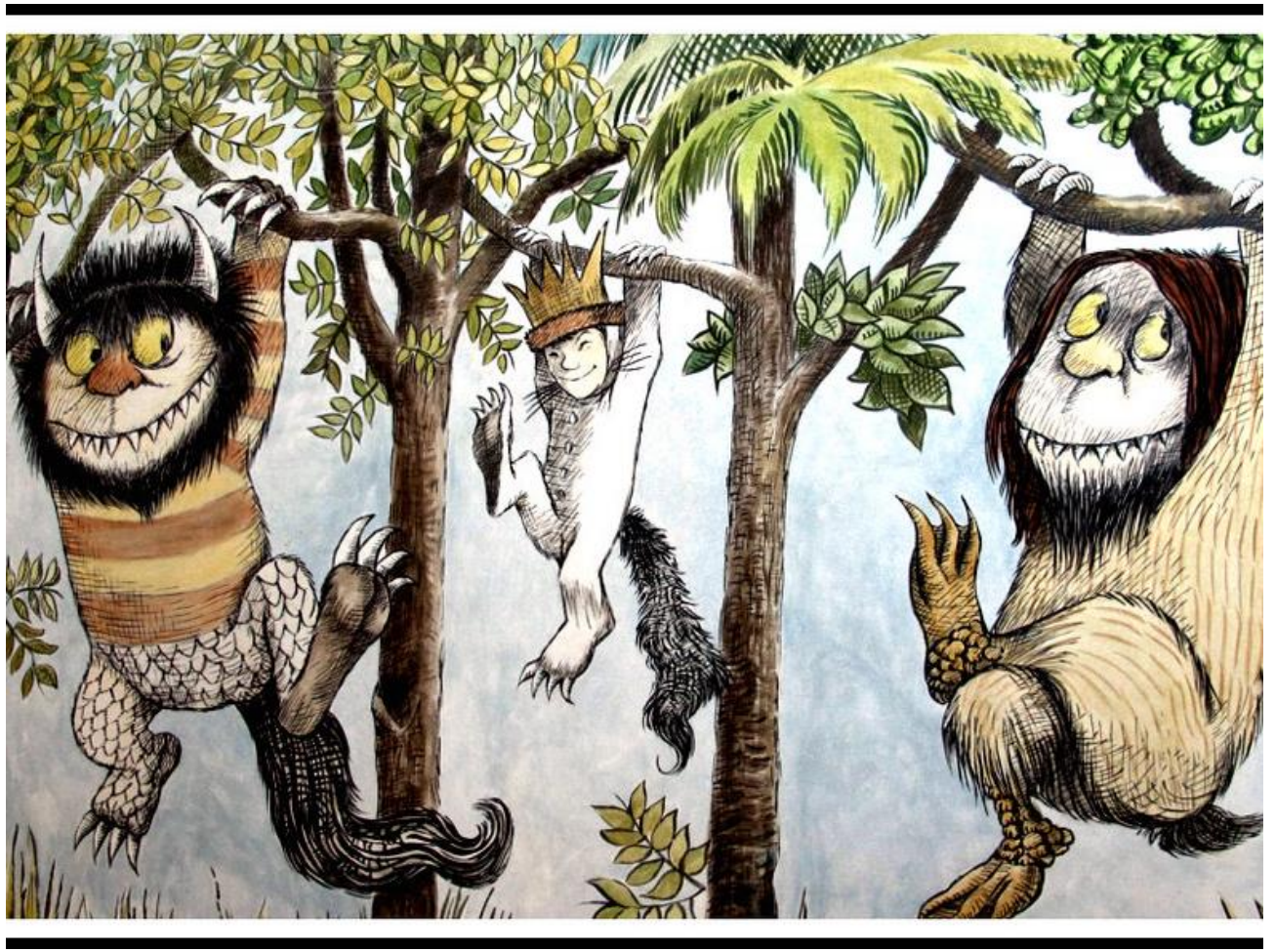


WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

Paper bag

WILD THING

full-body puppets



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Imagine a castle, a rocket, a king
READ and imagine ANY ole' thing!
READ and imagine ANY ole' thing!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
Imagine!
YOUR STORY!
YOUR STORY!

SNIP, SNAP, SNOUT!
THIS TALE'S OUT!