

Rumpelstiltskin

By the Brothers Grimm
Adaptation and Lyrics by Douglas Jones

A poor miller meets a king. To impress the royal, he tells the king that his daughter can spin straw into gold. The king locks her in a room full of straw, expecting it to become gold by morning. The poor girl sits by her spinning wheel and cries, since she knows that she cannot spin straw into gold.

A strange little man enters and offers to spin the straw into gold for the girl, for a price. She offers her necklace, and the man spins the straw into gold. Soon, though, the girl has no more to offer the little man. He asks for her first born child. Desperate, she agrees.




The final room full of straw is spun into gold and the miller's daughter becomes queen. Later she gives birth to a baby and the strange man returns for his prize. The queen begs and the man gives her a final chance: if she can guess his name, she may keep her child. The queen searches far and wide. Finally, she learns of the name Rumpelstiltskin. She guesses it, and keeps her child. *And they lived happily ever after.*

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This play is presented in support of the following VA Standards of Learning in English:
K.1, K.8, 1.1, 1.11, 2.2, 2.8, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6.



THEATRE IV A+ Classroom Study Guide

At the Theatre

Did you know that you are going to school today? That's right, **The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen** was once a school! The Center Theatre where you will go to see a play is in the old gymnasium. This room hosted basketball games and school plays. There used to be windows in this room. When the weather was hot, the school would leave the windows open for air. When the train would rumble by, action on stage would freeze until the noise stopped. Theatre IV is proud to perform plays and musicals in this wonderful old school house.

An A+ Audience Member

Today you are going to the theater! You will see a **play** or a play with music, called a **musical**. Going to a play is very different from watching television. The actors on stage can see you and hear you. So that everyone at the theater can enjoy the show, we hope you will remember this rhyme:

*Watch with your eyes,
Listen with your ears
Keep your mouth quiet,
so everyone can hear.*

*Clap with your hands
and laugh out loud.
You're a member of the audience,
a jolly good crowd!*



Behind the Scenes

Who's Who? People in the Theatre

Actors are the people who perform the story on stage. You see them every time you come to the theatre.

There are a lot of people that you never get to see who work hard to get the show ready. Here are a few:

The **director** tells the actors where to move on the stage and oversees the work of everyone involved in the play.

The **stage manager** is responsible for calling lighting and sound cues and for supervising the technical crew.

The **playwright** writes the musical or play.

The **prop master** is in charge of the objects used by the actors.

The **costume designers** plan the clothing actors wear.

The **lighting designers** plan the kinds of lights to show the setting and mood of each part of the story.

The **set designers** plan the scenery for the play.

Back Stage

The Playwright's Job

Playwrights are responsible for writing the play. What they write tells the actors what to say on stage. Some playwrights adapt stories so that they can be performed on stage.

When a playwright adapts a story the characters, events and even settings may change to fit the stage production. The playwright may change a characters' thoughts or parts of the story into events and actions that happen on stage. Additional scenes and characters may be added or cut to make the story the best play it can be.

There are many adaptations of fairy tales in books, movies, and plays.

adapt: to change to fit a new use or situation

Match the following adaptations to their original stories:

Original Story

Adaptation

Cinderella

The Horned Toad Prince

The Gingerbread Man

The Runaway Tortilla

Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves

Kate and the Beanstalk

CinderElmo

The Frog Prince

Ali Baba and the Forty

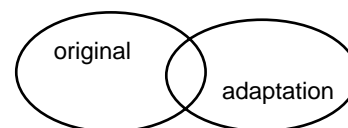
Jack and the Beanstalk

Aliens



Try It!

At your local library, check out the fairy tales in the J398 section. Read an original story and an adaptation! Then diagram what was the same, and what was different



Write Your Own Fairy Tale

Use the frame below to start writing your very own fairy tale.

Once upon a time, there was a _____ who lived in a _____.

But there was a mean _____ who always _____.

So one day the _____ decided to _____. There was a magic _____ that _____!

After that, _____.

Then, the _____ never _____.

And they lived happily ever after.

~The End~



At the Library

Cherry, or the Frog Bride by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

Hansel and Gretel: a fairy tale

by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

Rapunzel: a fairy tale

by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

Look for more of your favorite fairy tales in the J398 section of your local library.



Behind the Scenes

Writing the Play:

Fairy tales are types of folk tales. They usually begin with "Once upon a time..." and end with "...happily ever after." Also, fairy tales usually have events happening in threes, and involve magic.

Folk tales...

- are short, with a simple plot;
- have characters representing a characteristic like good or bad;
- feature events that are repeated, especially in threes; and
- are based in fantasy.

Can you think of other fairy tales?

List three here:



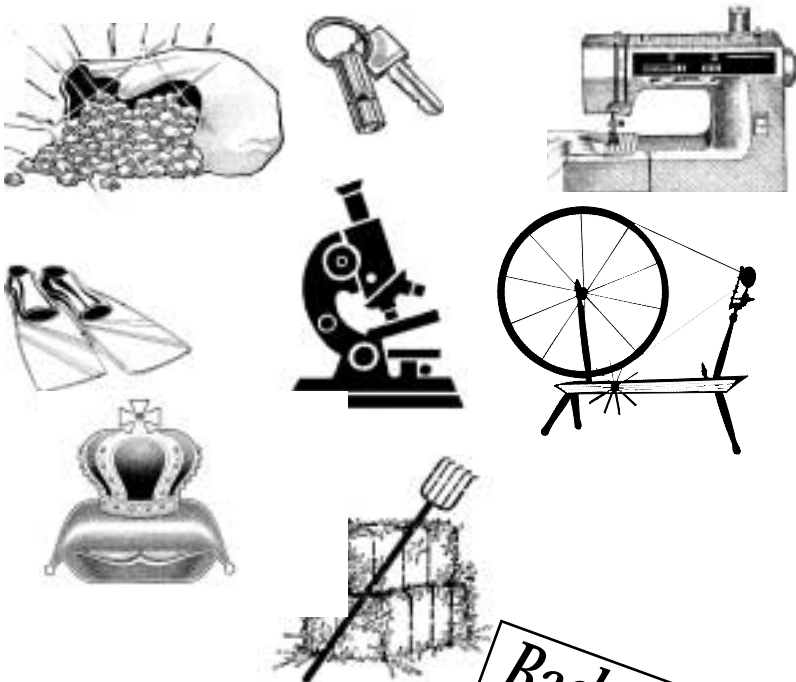
Out on the Web

Fairy tales are just one type of interesting story. Try some of your own at www.kids-space.org/HPT/1a/11a.html.

This site allows you to create your own play, choose characters, and even assign dialogue.

You are the Prop Master!

Circle the props that might be used for a play about Rumpelstiltskin. Remember, the story took place a very long time ago.



Back Stage
Rumpelstiltskin Prop List
 After watching Rumpelstiltskin, make a list of props used by the actors. How many can you remember?



Behind the Scenes

What's What?

Things in the Theatre

There are many things in the theatre that the actors use to help them tell the story. Some of these things include:

set - the scenery used in the play to describe the location of the actors.

props - objects used by the actors in the play.

lights- objects used in the theatre to make vision possible. Lights help to describe the setting and create the mood of a play.

This Theatre IV activity is in support of the following VA Standards of Learning in English:
 K.2, K.6, K.8, K.11, 1.7, 1.11, 1.12, 2.4, 2.8, 2.9, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8.



THEATRE IV

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Theatre IV presents... **Rumpelstiltskin**

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Theatre IV gratefully acknowledges our A+ Education Sponsors:



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