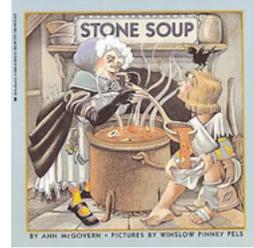


Nature-Based Read-Aloud Guide

Stone Soup

By Anne McGovern & Winslow Pels



Note: Many different versions of this traditional tale can be used

COMPREHENSION PROMPTS

Make Connections:

Prior to reading ask, "Have you ever made soup with your family?" Prompt further discussion by asking "What kind of ingredients did you add to the pot?"

Retell:

Pause periodically throughout the story and ask students to identify the ingredients that have gone into the pot so far. This makes a great sequencing activity! Have students draw the ingredients and cut them out so they can retell the story along with you in a subsequent reading.

Predict:

After reading page 11, ask students, "How will he make soup from a stone?" and "What do you think the young man is planning?"

Infer:

After finishing the story, ask students, "At the beginning of the story, did the little old lady want to share her food with the young man?". Follow-up by asking, "Why did the little old lady end up sharing her food with the young man? What changed her mind?" and "Do you think the little old lady was glad she shared her food? Why or why not?"

Discuss how the young man tricked the woman into sharing her food. Then ask, "why did the young man take the stone with him when he left? What does he plan to use it for in the future?"

FOLLOW UP NATURE ACTIVITY: MAKING NATURE STONE SOUP

- Gather old cooking pots and stirring spoons and bring them outdoors. If this is not available, old pails and long sticks will also do the trick!
- Divide students into pairs or small groups and give each group a cooking pot and stirring spoon.
- Tell students that they will be using natural ingredients to retell the story of Stone Soup. You could assign roles from the story or allow this to develop naturally.
- Have students gather natural ingredients for their soup (rocks, pine cones, leaves, etc.) and give them time to act out the story. Encourage students to be creative and put their own spin on this traditional tale.

Extension Ideas:

- Have groups revisit this activity in different seasons to create seasonal soup recipes (eg. Winter Soup ingredients might include ice, snow, pine needles, etc.). Record these recipes on chart paper or in a class book. This is a great way to get young students thinking about the different natural items they find in different seasons.



Students creating nature stone soup!