



#10037

UNDER THE LEMON MOON

DISNEY EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTIONS, 2002

Grade Level: 2-6

18 mins.

DESCRIPTION

Who is the night man? Why has he taken Rosalinda's beautiful lemons from her tree? A young rural Mexican girl finds a way to save her tree and help someone in need. The "Beyond the Page Café" kids read *Under the Lemon Moon* and conduct an online interview with author Edith Hope Fine. Includes a segment on practical ways to help others through volunteering.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Language Arts–Reading

- Standard: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of familiar literary passages and texts (e.g., fairy tales, folktales, fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, myths, poems, nursery rhymes, picture books, predictable books) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1 and 2.)
- Standard: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of informational texts
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of familiar literary passages and texts (e.g., fairy tales, folktales, fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, myths, poems, nursery rhymes, picture books, predictable books) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)
- Standard: Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses personal criteria to select reading material (e.g., personal interest, knowledge of authors and genres, text difficulty, recommendations of others) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2 and 3.)
 - ◆ Benchmark: Understands the author's purpose (e.g., to persuade, to inform) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1 and 3.)

Subject Area: Language Arts–Viewing

- Standard: Uses viewing skills and strategies to understand and interpret visual media
 - ◆ Benchmark: Understands different messages conveyed through visual media (e.g., main ideas and supporting details; facts and opinions; main

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

characters, setting, and sequence of events in visual narratives) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1.)

Subject Area: Language Arts – Listening and Speaking

- Standard: Uses listening and speaking strategies for different purposes
 - ♦ Benchmark: Understands that language reflects different regions and cultures (e.g., sayings; expressions; usage; oral traditions and customs; historical, geographical, and societal influences on language) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 5.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To show the book *Under the Lemon Moon* by Edith Hope Fine and produce a thorough understanding of the story.
2. To promote the reading of children's literature, especially books by this author, illustrator, or about this subject matter.
3. To introduce the author of the book, find out where she got the idea for the story, and hear her suggestions for kids.
4. To encourage the idea of doing nice things for others, including volunteering and service learning projects.
5. To introduce some Spanish words and phrases and their meanings.

VOCABULARY

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. accepted | 7. gracias | 13. moonbeams |
| 2. branch | 8. grandmother | 14. Night Man |
| 3. candle | 9. grow | 15. neighbor |
| 4. capture | 10. heal | 16. scarecrow |
| 5. content | 11. hen | 17. service learning |
| 6. full moon | 12. lemon tree | 18. sick |

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Discuss how it feels to have someone take something that belongs to you. Share personal experiences and feelings.
2. Remember a time when you had to forgive someone for something. How did you feel before you forgave them? After you forgave them? How did the other person feel?
3. Discuss giving and receiving. How does it feel to receive gifts? To give gifts?
4. Discuss fantasy stories. What kinds of things happen in fantasy stories?
5. Locate Mexico on a map. Explain that the story takes place in a small Mexican village. Discuss what life might be like there.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Why does Rosalinda go outside at night? How does she feel? Do you think it was a smart thing to do?
2. What happens to Rosalinda's tree? Why is she so upset?

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

3. What do Rosalinda's parents suggest?
4. What does Rosalinda's neighbor suggest she do to take care of her sick tree? What does her friend, Señor Rodolfo, suggest? What does she think? How does she respond to both of them?
5. What does Rosalinda's grandmother say? How can lighting a candle help? What is Rosalinda's response?
6. Who is La Anciana, the Old One? What is she supposed to do?
7. Why does Rosalinda walk all day with her hen following her?
8. What does Rosalinda do when she sees the Night Man selling her lemons in the market? Why is he selling Rosalinda's lemons?
9. How does Rosalinda get help from La Anciana?
10. Describe what happens that night.
11. How can you tell that Rosalinda is generous? Does she remind you of anyone you know?
12. What does the Night Man say to Rosalinda? How does he feel? What does she tell him to do?
13. How does the story show that Rosalinda forgives the Night Man for stealing her lemons?
14. Discuss how Edith Hope Fine became a children's author. What does she suggest that children should do?
15. Is La Anciana a character from Mexican mythology?
16. What kinds of projects can young people get involved in to help their communities?

Applications and Activities

1. Read the book *Under the Lemon Moon* by Edith Hope Fine. Read other books about forgiveness and doing nice things for others.
2. In the story, the moon is described as a "lemon wedge moon." Compare the moon to something else. Draw a picture of this special moon and write a poem underneath.
3. Brainstorm ways to be generous at school or contribute to the community. Work in groups to make an illustrated poster of the ideas.
4. Do a service learning project in the local community.
5. Review all of the Spanish words and phrases in the story and what they mean in English. Make a Spanish/English dictionary of the words. Add other common Spanish words.
6. Formulate original questions for the author. Send the questions to Edith Hope Fine, c/o Lee & Low Books Inc., 95 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016.
7. Compare Rosalinda's lifestyle to yours. Investigate rural areas or small villages of Mexico. Share the information gathered.
8. Introduce the word *onomatopoeias*. Explain that this term refers to words that sound like the sounds they represent.
 - a. Give examples such as "buzz" and "boom." Brainstorm more examples.
 - b. Find examples of onomatopoeia in the story. Make a list of the sound words and who or what says that. (Example: "Brawk" is one of the onomatopoeias for the hen.)

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

9. Get lemons. Make lemonade. Plant some lemon seeds and see how long it takes for them to sprout. Investigate how long it takes for a real lemon tree to produce lemons.
10. Read other books that take place in Mexico that have magical or mythical people in them.

SUMMARY

1. Synopsis of the video: At the Beyond the Page Café, "today's special" is *Under the Lemon Moon*, written by Edith Hope Fine and illustrated by Rene King Moreno. Join host Shelley as she reads the story aloud to the Café's visitors, and view an animation of Moreno's watercolor and pastel illustrations. After reading the story, the children have an online chat with Edith Hope Fine, who talks about her favorite part of the story. Then the kids watch a video about children's volunteer organizations and meet kids who contribute their time and energy to their communities.
2. Synopsis of the book: One evening, the Night Man steals all the lemons from Rosalinda's favorite tree. The next day, a heartbroken Rosalinda looks for La Anciana, the Old One, because she helps things grow. To her dismay, she discovers her lemons for sale at the market. Then La Anciana appears and tells Rosalinda how to heal her lemon tree when the moon is full. That night the tree glows with lemons. The next morning, Rosalinda gives her lemons to friends and relatives. She hands her last one to the Night Man, who apologizes for the theft. She instructs him to plant the seeds while the moon is still full. That way he can help his impoverished family and himself.

CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [I Love Saturdays y domingos #10027](#)
- [Tom Tit Tot #3191](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• UNDER THE LEMON MOON TEACHER'S GUIDE

<http://www.leeandlow.com/teachers/guide30.html>

Has an instructional plan for the book on the book publisher's Web site. It includes a synopsis of the story, background information, and many activities for before and after the book.

- **EDITH HOPE FINE**

<http://www.grammarpatrol.com/edith>

The author's Web site has information about her, about her books, about school visits, and a FAQ page.

- **DO KINDNESS**

<http://www.actsofkindness.org>

Get inspired, and check out a variety of positive things kids, people, and classes can do to help others on the Web site by The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation.

- **MEXICO FOR KIDS**

http://www.elbalero.gob.mx/index_kids.html

Great Web site for elementary age students. Covers Mexico history, government, geography (explore), biodiversity, and has online games. Click on "About Mexico" to get started.

- **KINDER GARDEN**

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/kindergarten/kinder.htm>

Ideas to help children grow school, community, or botanic gardens. Includes nutrition tips, instructions for making a science center, and numerous links.