

THE LITTLE OLD LADY WHO WAS NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING

THE LION AND THE MOUSE

by Linda Williams, illustrated by Megan Lloyd

Ages: 3-7; Grades: Pre-K-2

Themes: Bravery, Halloween, Problem Solving, Humor

Running Time: 10 minutes

SUMMARY

Once upon a time, there was a little old lady who was not afraid of anything...until she went for a walk in the woods one night. Hearing mysterious sounds behind her, the old lady bravely faced everything that crossed her path. CLOMP, CLOMP, SHAKE, SHAKE, CLAP, CLAP. It wasn't until the old lady heard, BOO, that she turned and ran for her life. Finally safe within her home, the old lady heard a loud KNOCK, KNOCK at the door. Will she open it?

OBJECTIVES

- Students will make predictions.
- Students will practice reading with fluency and expression.
- Students will use drama to interpret text.

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Give students a mini-lesson on making predictions. Tell them that strong readers make predictions about what will happen next in the story, based on clues. Make connections by giving students examples of real-life situations where they can make a prediction (*e.g. dark clouds are clues that it might rain*).

Invite students to talk to partners about predictions that they can make about real-life situations. After students have practiced making predictions about real-life situations, read a short section of the book *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything* and/or another text and encourage students to make one or two predictions. Then, tell students that they will be watching the movie *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything*. Encourage students to watch and listen to see if their predictions are confirmed. Stop the movie periodically to give students time to make several more predictions.

Use the book *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything* as a shared reading text to be revisited daily with the class for a whole week to build fluency and expression.

A sample schedule might look like this:

Monday: Read the book aloud to the class. Show them how to predict what the little old lady is going to say, based on repetitive text.

Tuesday: Read the book aloud again. Invite students to choral read the parts they remember. Emphasize reading the action words (i.e. CLOMP, CLOMP) in a loud, scary voice.

Wednesday: Read the book aloud again. Invite students to choral read the parts they remember. Invite a student or students to use a pointer to track the words as you read.

Thursday: Read the book aloud again. Invite students to choral read the parts they remember. Emphasize changing your voice when the little old lady speaks.

Friday: Choral read the entire book as a class.

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Hand out musical instruments such as a hand drum, maracas, a wood block, a clacker, and any others that could be used to represent the sounds in the movie. Assign each instrument to one of the scary things from the book. Model how students can play the instrument each time that object appears to scare the little old lady. Watch the movie or read the book again, with students each assigned to an instrument to play.

Bring in an old pair of shoes, pants, a shirt, gloves, and hat. Make, or help students make, a large pumpkin head out of construction paper or another material. Assign parts and props to various students. Those not assigned a part can be narrators to choral read the text. Have students read and act out the story. This can be done as a whole group activity or a small group literacy center.

Revisit the Before Viewing lesson on predictions. Guiding questions:

- Did the little old lady do what you thought she would?
- How did the author help you predict what the little old lady was going to say or do? What clues did she give you?
- What do you think the little old lady will do the next time she goes walking in the woods? What makes you think that?
- What do you think the scarecrow will do in the future? What makes you think that?

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