

Lesson Plan 07

Stories and Nursery Rhymes enjoyed by children

Age group: Years 1+

Aims:

- a) To appreciate children's stories from different cultures
- b) To enjoy children's stories from Sierra Leone
- c) To enjoy nursery rhymes and simple stories used in the UK

Resources:

1. Three stories from Sierra Leone

07-01 The Traveller and the Monkeys

- story; suitable for infant school age
- Questions
- Tree of life - the Coconut; worksheet

07-02 The Blind Man and the Crippled Man

- story; suitable for infant school age
- Questions

07-03 Madam Yoko - A Woman of Culture and Ambition

- story
- Questions
- Facts of Sierra Leone - see Lesson Plan 01
- Flags - see Lesson Plan 02

2. UK Stories: Myth, Legend and Fairy Tale

07-04 King Arthur - The Legend of King Arthur

- background: Who was Arthur?
- King Arthur - the legend
- Acknowledgements
- Lord Alfred Tennyson's Poem - *Morte d'Arthur*

07-05 Robin Hood - Who was Robin Hood?

- Story of Little John
- Friar Tuck
- Robin Hood and Maid Marion
- The Ballad of Allen-a-Dale (Old English)
- Robin Hood Song by Carl Sigman
- Acknowledgements

07-06 Cinderella - story

- Acknowledgements
- Sequencing - cut out pictures and put in order
- Board Game - move the number of spaces on the dice and read the instructions

3. Nursery rhymes used in the UK (07.07)

- suggested aims, questions to elicit response, things to do, facts about each rhyme, pictures, words and music for:

Humpty Dumpty, Jack and Jill, London Bridge, Mary had a little lamb, Old Mother Hubbard, Old Woman in the Shoe, Pussy Cat Pussy Cat, Tom Tom the Piper's Son.

4. Information sheet

What is a myth, what is a legend, what is a fairy tale?: PTO

5. Useful websites: PTO

Teacher Guidelines: INFORMATION SHEET

Definitions:

Myths

Myths are stories made up to explain something that people believed such as how the earth was made, or something else natural, such as rainbows, thunder and lightening. Some of the most famous myths deal with gods and goddesses, animals and plants.

Examples - about Cupid (Roman God of Love), Venus (Roman Goddess of Beauty), how the leopard got its spots, how the elephant got its trunk, Giants

Legends

Legends are stories about the extraordinary deeds that real people or story characters (who might have been real people) are supposed to have performed. They are traditional stories and poems that parents have told their children for centuries.

There are legends about saints, like **Saint Patrick** who was supposed to have chased all the snakes out of Ireland. There are legends about **Robin Hood** and his Merry Men and **King Arthur** and his Knights, who may or may not have been real people.

Fairy Tales

Fairy Tales are stories that tell of miraculous and fantastic happenings. The main characters in fairy tales are often supernatural and can do all sorts of extraordinary things. These beings could be imaginary creatures such as fairies, goblins, brownies, pixies, elves, giants, trolls, leprechauns, witches and wizards, and even plants. Most fairy tales have happy endings ('... and they lived happily ever after')

Some examples are Cinderella, The Enormous Turnip, The Ugly Duckling (Hans Christian Anderson), Rumpelstiltskin (Brothers Grimm)

5. Useful websites:

www.myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends	for Humpty Dumpty and others
www.historic-uk.com/historyuk/England-history/robinhood.htm	for Robin Hood
www.britainexpress.com/Myths/myths-index.htm	for King Arthur and Robin Hood
www.earlybritishkingdoms.com/kids/#kingarthur	for King Arthur
www.leeds.ac.uk + search: 'ballad from robin hood'	for Robin Hood
www.theweeweb.co.uk/fairy_tales.php	for Cinderella and Little Red Riding Hood
www.teacher.scholastic.com + search for 'myth' and select 'Writing myths with writers', or other resource	
www.english.unitecology.ac.nz/resources/units/myths_legends	
www.english.unitecology.ac.nz/resources/units/fairytales/fairytales (New Zealand Ministry of Education resources for teachers)	