

Japanese Folktales and Kamishibai

Time: one week

Purpose:

Folktales are anonymous traditional narratives passed down from one generation to the next orally. These stories provide knowledge and understanding of a variety of cultures, as well as opportunities to exam cultural morals.

Standards/Benchmarks:

Reading

Acquisition of Vocabulary:

- A. Use context clues and text structures to determine the meaning of new vocabulary
- B. Examine the relationships of analogical statement to infer work meanings.
- C. Recognize the importance and function of figurative language.

Reading Process: Concepts of Print, Comprehension Strategies and Self-Monitoring Strategies

- A. Apply reading comprehension strategies to understand grade-appropriate text.
- B. Demonstrate comprehension of print and electronic text by responding to questions (e.g., literal, inferential, evaluative and synthesizing).
- C. Use appropriate self-monitoring strategies for comprehension.

Reading Applications: Literary Text

- A. Analyze interactions between characters in literary text and how the interactions affect the plot.
- B. Explain and analyze how the context of setting and the author's choice of point of view impact a literary text.
- C. Identify the structural elements of the plot and explain how an author develops conflicts and plot to pace the events in literary text.
- D. Identify similar recurring themes across different works.
- E. Analyze the use of a genre to express a theme or topic.
- F. Identify and analyze how an author uses figurative language, sound devices and literary techniques to shape plot, set meaning and develop tone.
- G. Explain techniques used by authors to develop style.

Writing

Writing Process:

- A. Formulate writing ideas and identify a topic appropriate to the purpose and audience.
- B. Determine the usefulness of organizers and apply appropriate pre-writing tasks.
- C. Use revision strategies to improve the style, variety of sentence structure, clarity of the controlling idea, logic, effectiveness of word choice and transitions between paragraphs, passages or ideas.
- D. Edit to improve sentence fluency, grammar and usage.
- E. Apply tools to judge the quality of writing.

F. Prepare writing for publication that is legible, follows an appropriate format, and uses techniques such as electronic resources and graphics.

Writing Conventions:

A. Use correct spelling conventions.

B. Use correct punctuation and capitalization.

C. Demonstrate understanding of the grammatical conventions of the English language.

Listening/Speech

Communication: Oral and Visual

G. Give presentations using a variety of delivery methods, visual displays and technology.

Essential Questions:

Why are folktales still so popular? Think about all the Disney movies you may have watched growing up.

What do these folktales tell us about Japan?

Do folktales from other countries have the same characteristics? What are they?

Do you think folktales are important to pass down from one generation to the next? Why or why not?

Learning Plan:

Learning Activities

Day One: Pre-reading

Students will share a folktale they remember from their childhood with a small group of students. They will then discuss the characteristics of a folktale as well as the purpose of folktales.

During reading students will use a graphic organizer (see ReadWriteThink website). After sharing their findings they will read *The Priest and the Tunuki*, and *Sparrows and the Woodpecker*.

Day Two:

Students will then work in small groups to create a formula for writing a modern day folktale.

Working in small groups students will write a modern day folktale using the formula they wrote.

They will then create panels for presentation of their folktale in the Japanese format of Kamishibai (see website below).

Assessment Evidence:

Vocabulary

Classroom discussion of Essential Questions

Handout on Kamishiba

Writing Modern Folktale

Performance Assessment: Performance of Kamishiba

Materials:

Copies of *The Priest and the Tunuki*, and *Sparrows and the Woodpecker*.

Kamishibai at the Kyodai Kaikan You Tube (computers)

Poster board

Markers

Theatre

Graphic organizer