



Classroom Connections

For teachers and students grades K - 5



In the Classroom

Three Little Pigs and this Classroom Connections Study Guide are produced in support of the teaching of: the Language Arts, Music, and Theater.



At the Library

[The Three Little Pigs \(Folk Tale Classics\)](#) by Paul Galdone & Joanna C. Galdone

[The Three Little Pigs: An Architectural Tale](#) by Steven Guarnaccia

[The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig](#) by Eugene Trivizas and Helen Oxenbury

[The True Story of the Three Little Pigs](#) by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith



On the Web

Wikipedia:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three_Little_Pigs

Library of Congress early edition of the traditional story (1904)

<http://read.gov/books/three-pigs.html>

Mini-unit on The Three Little Pigs:

http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/three_little_pigs.html

Scholastic Lesson Plan: Fractured Fairy Tales and The True Story of the Three Little Pigs

http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/fractured_fairy_true.htm#history/aa-milne-is-born

Three Little Pigs

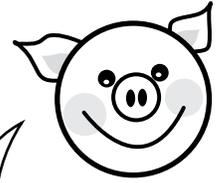
Book, music, and lyrics by Paul Deiss



Play Synopsis: Theatre IV's *Three Little Pigs* is a lighthearted musical with a twist on the classic tale. In this adaptation, the Wolf is not evil, but misunderstood. The Three Little Pigs are very frightened of the Wolf and don't want to be friends. The Wolf wants to be their friend and decides to invite them to his birthday party. The Wolf accidentally destroys the houses of the Three Little Pigs while delivering invitations to his birthday party. Wolf is surprised that he has the strength to blow down the houses, and feels badly about it. Luckily, Mother Pig is an understanding pig, and she helps Wolf deliver the party invitations. In the end, all is forgiven and the Pigs and Wolf can celebrate their new friendships together.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION The classic tale of the Three Little Pigs is a fable featuring anthropomorphic animals (talking animals with human personality traits). Printed versions of the story date back to the 1840's, but the story itself is thought to be much older than that!

Poetic Principles



Three Little Pigs is a play with music, called a **musical**. Music and poetry are similar (song lyrics are a type of poetry), and song writers and poets use some of the same strategies when they write songs and poems.



Work it Out

Three Little Pigs opens with the song to the right. Read it and you will notice **rhyme**, **rhythm**, and **repetition**.

- 1.) Use a colored pencil to color-code all the rhyming words you can find.
- 2.) Read and count how many times the following words are repeated: jumpin', human, and doctor.
- 3.) With a partner, read and clap the rhythm you hear in this song.

There was a little human- a human, a human
who jumped up and down upon his bed
till he fell and cracked his head- he cracked his head
and so his mama said;
that's what you get for jumpin'- for jumpin', for jumpin'
that's what you get for jumpin' up and down upon your bed.
She took him to the doctor- the doctor, the doctor
who fixed the cut upon his head with a needle and some thread
he fixed his head and this is what he said;
that's what you get for jumpin'- for jumpin', for jumpin'
that's what you get for jumpin' up and down upon your bed.
That night when it was bedtime- the human could not sleep
his pillows and his bed-sheets were piled up in a heap
'cause that's what you get for jumpin'- for jumpin', for jumpin'
that's what you get for jumpin' up and down upon your bed.

Blank writing area with horizontal lines for student response.



Challenge

Write a four-line poem with at least two rhyming words and two repeating words. Think about what the poem sounds like when read (or sung). Does it have rhythm?

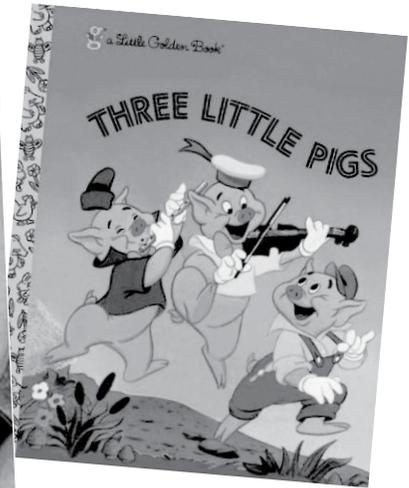
Perspectives

In the traditional story of *The Three Little Pigs*, the story's protagonists are the pigs, and the antagonist is the wolf. Theatre IV's version does not place the wolf in the role of villain, although he remains a bit of a destructive character!



At the Library

Read the traditional version of [The Three Little Pigs](#), as well as [The True Story of the Three Little Pigs](#) by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith. The second story is written from the viewpoint of the wolf, rather than that of the pigs. Think about how these versions are different.



Comparing [The True Story of the Three Little Pigs](#) to the traditional story, it's easy to see how two different newspapers might cover the same story differently. Writers think about who their readers are, and what they already believe (and what they are likely to believe), when they are planning an article.

Ask students to work in groups of three and write about the story of the *Three Little Pigs* for three different types of readers. Think about point-of-view and who is seen as the protagonist and antagonist for articles in each of the following publications:

The Wolf Times-Dispatch

Piggies Today

Human Times



Journal Share

Are you convinced by the wolf's version of the *Three Little Pigs* story? Does he seem trustworthy? Why or why not?



Challenge

Students can formalize their articles by typing them and adding images. Students can trade articles and write op/ed responses to each other's articles – from various points of view. Students can have a 'mock' trial for the wolf, with the defense and prosecution presenting different sides of the *Three Little Pigs* story.

Point-of-view (noun): A way of looking at or thinking about something.

Protagonist (noun): the chief character in a play, novel, or story. Many times the protagonist is the "hero" of the story.

Antagonist (noun): the character who opposes – or goes against – the protagonist. Many times the antagonist is the "villain" of the story.



THEATRE IV

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Theatre IV Presents...
Three Little Pigs
Books, music, and lyrics
by Paul Deiss

Theatre IV

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Cues at the Theatre

People who work on musical plays like *Three Little Pigs* need to know all about the following:

Playwright: (n.) a person who writes a play

Play: (n.) a story acted out with dialogue

Adapted: (v.) changed to fit a new use or situation (such as a story that was in a book being adapted to become a play)

Musical: (n.) a play that includes songs

Dialogue: (n.) words spoken by the characters in a play

Lyrics: (n.) words of a song

Using the list above, fill in the correct word:

A _____ that uses music is called a _____.

Actors in a play speak words called _____ and sing _____ of a song.

The person who writes a play is called a _____.

Often, a play is _____ from a book or another source.