



THE NEW JERSEY ITALIAN HERITAGE COMMISSION



Pinocchio and the Importance of Honesty

Grade Level: Kindergarten, First and Second Grades

Subject: Language Arts / Character Education / Art

Categories: Arts and Sciences

Standards

Please see page 6 of the lesson plan for complete New Jersey Student Learning Standards alignment.

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

1. identify the country of Italy (K, 1, 2)
2. explain the history of the original story of Pinocchio and author, Carlo Collodi (K, 1, 2)
3. compare the original story and the Disney story (1&2)
4. discuss character, life- lessons (K & 1)
5. identify the genre of the story as a Fairy Tale (K, 1, 2)

Abstract:

The lesson is about the story of Pinocchio and the importance of truth and character development. Students will focus on the significance of telling the truth and the value of accepting responsibilities. They will also discuss the history of the original story written by Carlo Collodi, and they will learn about his background. Students will have the Disney version of the story read to them aloud in class. They will discuss some of the differences and similarities between the original story and the Disney version.

Materials Required:

- Access to the internet
- Access to a Library
- Copy of Carlo Collodi's Adventures of Pinocchio
- Copy of Disney's Pinocchio
- Globe or world map
- White construction paper
- Crayons or markers
- Poster Board and Black Board
- Index cards
- Pinocchio movies (either version)

Background:

Pinocchio means the seed of a pine tree in Italian

Genre – Fairy Tale

Characteristics of a Fairy Tale

- Begins as “Once upon a time” and ends “Happily ever after”
- Contains magic
- Usually has a lesson or moral
- Usually have princes or princesses

For more information on Pinocchio go to: History of the original story, at

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinocchio>

For more information on the author, go to: Background information on Carlo Collodi, at:

<https://www.carlocollodi.it/en/>

Procedures for Kindergarten:

- I. Discuss the history of the original story written by Carlo Collodi and give some background on the author.
- II. Identify on a globe or world map the country of Italy.
 - a. Locate the city of Collodi (from which the author took his last name) and the city of Florence (the setting of the story).
- III. Read the Disney version of the story aloud to the class.
 - a. Many students may already be familiar with the story.
- IV. Discuss some of the differences and similarities between the original story and the Disney version.
- V. On a black board or poster board make a chart with two categories “Good” and “Bad.”
 - a. Ask the students to help you list Pinocchio’s actions from the story in the appropriate columns.
 - b. Create a similar chart this time having the students name actions they do for each category.
 - c. Compare the two sides and discuss what they can do to limit the number of “Bad” actions and do more “Good.”
- VI. Discuss with the students whether Pinocchio is a true story.
 - a. Explain that it is called a fairy tale.
 - b. We know it is a fairy tale because it has the characteristics of a fairy tale.
 - i. Ask the students to identify some of the characteristics in the story.
- VII. Pinocchio did not have a very good memory in the story.
 - a. To improve your class’ memory, play a memory game.
 - b. You may want to use a game you have purchased or you may want to make one of your own using index cards and creating your own pictures,

numbers, colors, letters, shapes, or even downloads pictures from the story Pinocchio.

Procedures for First Grade:

- I. Identify on a world map or globe the country of Italy, the city of Collodi, and the city of Florence.
- II. Discuss with the students some background history of Carlo Collodi.
- III. Read aloud to the students the original story of Pinocchio by Carlo Collodi.
- IV. Ask the students to name some similarities and differences between the original story and the story retold by Disney.
- V. Ask the students the following discussion questions.
 - a. Record their answers on poster board or a black board or duplicate the questions and have each student write their own answers as you read the questions.
 - b. This will depend on your class' writing abilities.
 - i. What does it mean to be honest?
 - ii. What is a lie?
 - iii. What is a consequence?
 - iv. What is a conscience?
 - v. What did Pinocchio need to accomplish to become a real boy?
 - vi. Why do you think he had so much difficulty following the right path?
 - vii. Was Honest John really honest?
 - viii. Why do you think this was his name?
 - ix. What lesson could be learned from this story?
 - x. Did Pinocchio learn an important lesson?
 1. How do you know?
 2. Was there something in the story that told you?
- VI. Explain to students that honesty is a very important quality. Our two greatest presidents had reputations of being very honest men. Abraham Lincoln was called "Honest Abe," for reasons very different from why they called "Honest John" honest. You can tell students of the story of George Washington chopping down his father's cherry tree and when asked, saying, "I did it, for I cannot tell a lie." Many people do regard this story as the invention of Washington's first biographer, Parson Weems." More recent scholarship, however, reveals that the story does have some basis in fact. Apparently, Washington did cut branches off his father's tree and did confess to the deed. Weems, or an earlier source, embellished the story, but people had no problem believing the tale because of Washington's esteemed reputation for honesty.

- VII. Have the students draw on white construction paper their favorite part of the story and share them with the class.
- a. They may also write a sentence on the bottom of the page telling about their picture.
 - b. This would depend upon your class' writing abilities.

Assessments:

Teachers will check for student's understanding as they proceed through lessons. Teachers will evaluate student's work based on a teacher-made checklist.

Extensions:

- Read the Disney version of the story Pinocchio
- Show the movie of either version
- Create your own fairy tale using the genre's characteristics
 - This can be done as a class or individually.
- Make puppets using a variety of materials, old socks, brown lunch bags, paper plates, Popsicle sticks, etc.
- Research how to create a marionette and do it as a class or group project

Resources:

- [Adventures of Pinocchio](#) by Carlo Collodi (Carlo Lorenzini) 1880
- To download the original story
http://fathom.lib.uchicago.edu/2/72810000/72810000_pinocchio.pdf
- Original story by chapters
http://www.pagebypagebooks.com/C_Collodi/The_Adventures_of_Pinocchio
- Disney movie history
<http://disney.go.com/vault/archives/movies/pinocchio/pinocchio.html>Disney's
- Pinocchio coloring pages
<http://www.educationalcoloringpages.com/Pinocchio.html>
- Center and enrichment ideas
<http://www.teachingheart.net/f.html>
- The Real Pinocchio and the Disney Pinocchio
<https://www.storynory.com/the-real-pinocchio-and-the-disney-pinocchio/>
- Disney Whitewashed the Story of Pinocchio, Originally that of an Ungrateful and "Wretched boy," Hanged for his Mistakes
<https://www.thevintagenews.com/2018/01/16/pinocchio-original-story/>

References:

- (1) National Geography Standards 1994. “*Geography for Life*” Geography Education Standards Project. National Geographic Society.
- (2) *National Standards for Civics and Government*. 2003. Center for Civic Education. Calabasas, CA.

New Jersey Student Learning Standards

Social Studies

6.1.4A.14 Describe how the world is divided into many nations and that each has its own government, language, customs and laws.

English Language Arts

RL.2.2 Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message/themes, lesson, or moral.

RL.2.3 Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges, using key details.

RL.2.7 Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

RL.2.9 Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story (e.g., Cinderella stories) by different authors or from different cultures.