

Adapted Stories

A Common Core Guide for Classrooms & Libraries



Designed for children at the 2nd and 3rd grade level the enclosed activities are sure to be crowd pleasers.

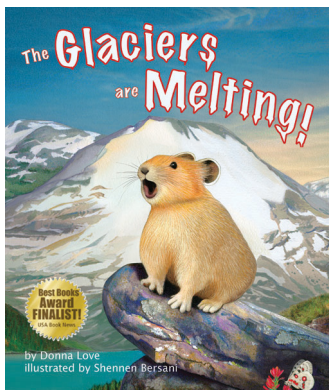
The standards covered in this guide include:
English Language Arts RL 2.9 and RL 2.1
with RL 2.3 and RL 2.7 activities.

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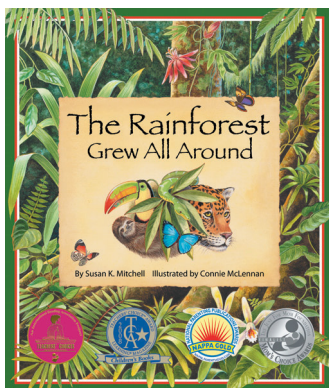
Overview

This guide is created for you have a ready-made lesson where children enjoy reading different types of material and learning about new ideas and concepts. Although these activities are aligned to the Common Core standards, the activities included are meant to be fun and helpful in any group setting.

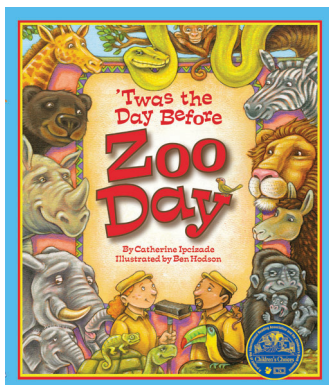
Our Adapted Stories



Chicken Little may have thought the sky was falling but Peter Pika is sure the glaciers are melting and is off to talk to the Mountain Monarch about it. Joined along the way by friends Tammy Ptarmigan, Sally Squirrel, Mandy Marmot, and Harry Hare, they all wonder what will happen to them if the glaciers melt. More importantly, can the Mountain Monarch stop the glaciers from melting?

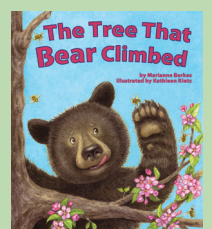
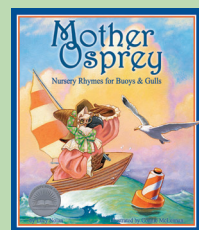
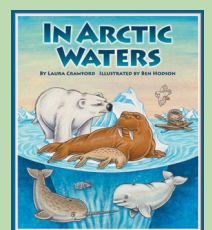
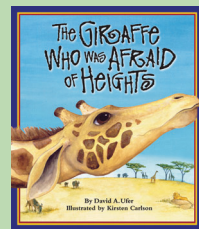
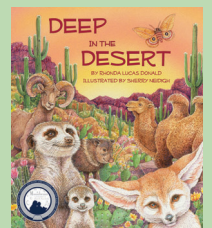
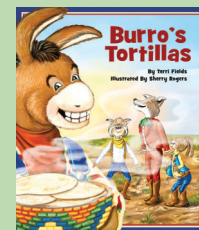


Imaginations will soar from the forest floor, up through the canopy and back down again, following the circle of life. The jungle comes alive as children learn about the creatures lurking in the lush Amazon rainforest in this clever adaptation of the song “The Green Grass Grew All Around.”



Delightful adaptation of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, that shares preparations for “Zoo Day.” But the llamas won't quit spitting, the giraffes are drooling, and the zebras aren't happy at all with their stripes. Meanwhile, the zoo keepers are busily getting ready. Will “Zoo Day” go off without a hitch?

Although the enclosed activities feature only three books in the Sylvan Dell Adapted Stories set, you may adjust the activities to fit a wide variety of age groups, or even other stories. Watch for these hints and tips throughout this guide, and check out the other titles in the collection below.



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Where to Begin

To get started you will need the inspiration for the adapted story. Both *Chicken Little* and *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* are available in a variety of formats. Children may be familiar with the story through video or reading. In the pre-reading activity discuss how the children have seen each of these stories and provide a copy of the text for them to view.

For this lesson, we chose three very different types of adaptations from the folktale of Chicken Little to poetry and finally song adaptations from "The Green Grass Grew all Around."

Pre Reading Discussion

Here we are introducing the idea of retelling stories in a different way, as well as getting to know the children's knowledge of the inspiration stories. Use these sample questions to get the conversation going.

Say: Stand up if you have ever made up a story!

Say: Stay standing if you have read another story and made up new words to that story

Ask: Was the new story the same or different?

Ask: Why did you make the story different (or the same)?

Have everyone sit down and start over with questions about rhyme

Say: Stand up if you have ever made up a poem or a song

Say: Stay standing if you have used another poem or song to create a new one.

Ask: Did you rhyme?

Ask: Did your new song(poem) have the same rhythm?

Have everyone sit down and begin the discussion about the three stories in the lesson.

Ask: Do you know *Chicken Little*? Tell me where you have heard the story of *Chicken Little*?

Do: Make a list of all the ways they have heard the story told, i.e. Disney Cartoon, book, told by storyteller, etc.

Ask: Why do you think there are so many versions of Chicken Little?

Ask: Do you know the same story with different characters?

Say: We are also going to look at a poem *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* and the song "The Green Grass Grew All Around"

Say: Raise your hand if you know *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*

Ask: How is a poem different from a story?

Say: Raise your hand if you can sing "The Green Grass grew All Around"

Ask: How is a song different from a poem?

Conclude the discussion and begin with the readings.



Adapt this discussion
Use other stories and
discuss nursery rhymes
or tall tales

Language Arts

Report the Facts!

Give kids the chance to cover late breaking news with this activity. Depending on your desired level of group interaction, there are two variations of this activity.

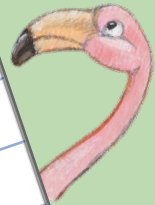
Highly interactive - Have the children "play reporter" and get the facts about adapted stories. Have them compare and contrast the, who, what, when, where, why and how elements of the stories.

You will need a type of "microphone" for a realistic presentation.

The activity - Divide the group into pairs and hand out the worksheets. Assign a title to each pair along with a copy of the original story. Have the pair read the story and answer the five questions for the adapted differences in the second and third blocks.

The presentation - Have each pair come up and one child is the reporter and the other is the interviewee. Have the pair choose, or interview their partner on the similarities and differences between the new and the original story.

Less interactive option - Keeping with the news report theme, hand out the worksheet and either read aloud both the original and adapted story or have each child read both stories. After they have filled out the worksheet, have them write a short news story on the similarities and differences between the two, including a headline. Take the stories and print them in a newspaper format for the whole class to read about the similarities and differences of the titles.



Report the Facts!

Who?	What is the Same?	What is different?
What?	What is the Same?	What is different?
When?	What is the Same?	What is different?
Where?	What is the Same?	What is different?
Why?	What is the Same?	What is different?
How?	What is the Same?	What is different?

Adapt Your Story

Choose your favorite Story

Create Your Own Version of this Story

Get Creative

Now that the kids understand adaptive stories it is time to really have fun with this idea and get creative, using drama, art and science as our inspiration. The following activities will have participants learning about different types of adaptations including those used by the animals in the selected stories.

Add a Little Drama



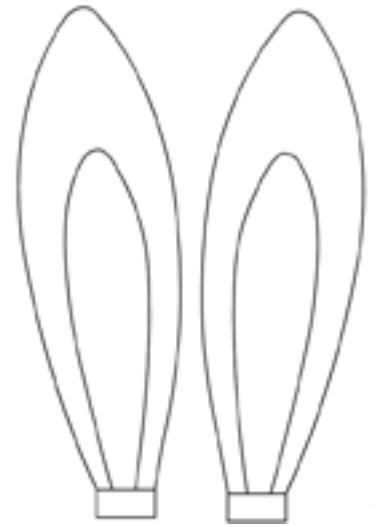
In this activity the goal is for the children to express their creativity and knowledge of the animals in the story.

Costumes: Optional to the activity, but very valuable in demonstrating the animal's adaptations. Depending on the ages of the participants, and scale of your production, you may want to have ready-made costumes available for kids to use. Other alternatives include construction paper ears on elastic string or headbands that the kids can easily make themselves. Faux fur from a fabric store ears and tails are also a great inexpensive option. Add props for even more fun!

The Story: Divide large groups and have them act out each story separately or create one play using only one of the books.

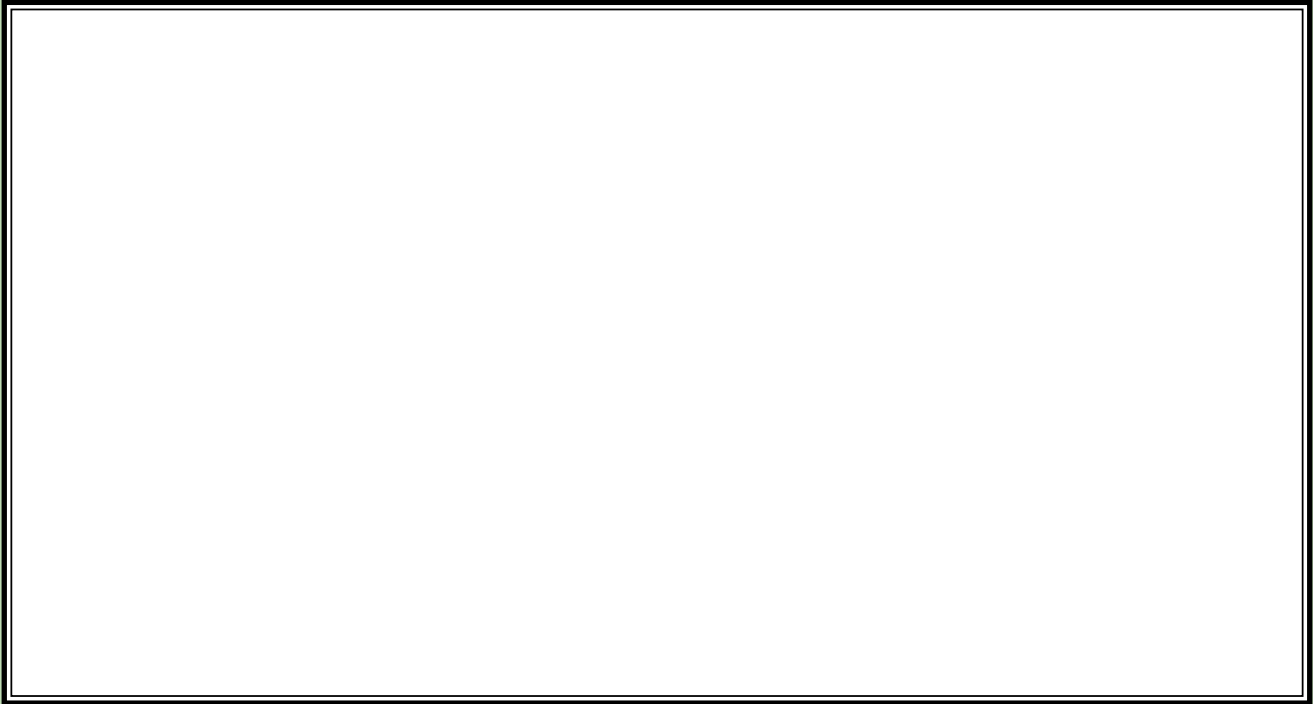
Assign parts: After assigning parts have the children work together and adapt the story. They create their own speaking part as the character from that book. Have the children include one fact about their animal or plant in the speaking part that they create.

Ears!



The Setting

You are the artist! Draw the setting from Chicken Litte, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, or The Green Grass Grew all Around!



Now Draw the setting from The Glaciers are Melting, 'Twas the Day Before Zoo Day, or The Rainforest Grew All Around.



It's All about Science

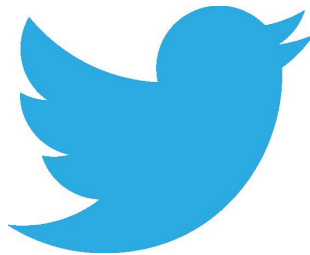
The final activity in the guide is not just a great addition to Common Core, but also fits perfectly into the Biodiversity standards of the NGSS. Have a great time with Animal Adaptation Bingo! Read the answers below that correspond with the animal name on the attached bingo cards and have fun!

My spots keep me hidden in my habitat - **Jaguar**
my pink tongue and long claws help me dig for insects - **Bear**
My curved claws help me navigate the rainforest trees - **Sloth**
My long teeth that catch my prey and won't let go - **Boa**
I have black and white stripes that hide me well - **Zebra**
I sleep many hours on the african savannas - **Lion**
My Shell protects me from predators - **Turtle**
I swing from the trees with my hand like tail - **Monkey**
My eyes stay above the water for effective swimming - **Alligator**
My long neck makes eating leaves easy - **Giraffe**
I gather food in summer to eat during the winter - **Pika**
I have white fur to hide from my predators on a snowy day -
Snowshoe hare
I hibernate in the winter - **Marmot**
I am a carnivore and many animals are afraid of me - **Wolverine**
I lay my eggs under a leaf for safe keeping - **Poison Dart Frog**
My beak is large to gather fruit from the trees - **Toucan**
I have wings but I am a mammal not a bird - **Bat**
I have a long trunk that helps me drink water - **Elephant**
My vines help protect the animals that live here - **Rainforest**
I am a large sheet of ice that moves and creates new habitats -
Glacier
I live in groups in the desert with my large family - **Meercat**
I spit at members of my herd to dicipline them - **Llama**
When at rest I stand on one leg - **Flamingo**
I grow in the ground not on a tree - **Pineapple**
I carry pieces of leaves to my nest - **Leafcutter ant**

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