

2025-2026

Discovery Series RESOURCE GUIDE

Fractured Fairy Tales

Volume III



DAYTON LIVE

Your Home for Arts,
Culture & Entertainment

Friday, Feb. 10, 2026
9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Victoria Theatre

Welcome to the 2024-2025 Discovery Series at Dayton Live. We are very excited to be your education partner in providing professional arts experiences to you and your students!

Girls rule, as this all-female cast puts classic stories through the contemporary wringer and finds every laugh in these truly wacky tales. What if...Cinderella was a popstar? What if... the three little pigs were the bullies, not the wolf? Ask these questions and more when **FRACTURED FAIRY TALES** takes a modern twist on classic fairy tales!

Stories include “*Jack And The Beanstalk*,” “*The Fisherman’s Wife*,” and “*The Tortoise And The Hare*,” among others.

The information and activities in this guide have been carefully crafted to help you and your students explore the many ways a live theatre experience can create endless learning opportunities. Grade level icons will help you determine which activities are good for your students, too. Don’t forget to take advantage of the local resources listed to extend the play-going experience and make even more curricular connections for you and your students. Thank you again, and welcome!



The Education & Engagement Team

Curriculum Connection

Grades
K-6

You will find these icons listed in the resource guide next to the activities that indicate curricular connections. Teachers and parents are encouraged to adapt all of the activities included in an appropriate way for your students' age and abilities. **FRACTURED FAIRY TALES** fulfills the following Ohio State Standards and Benchmarks for kindergarten through 6th grades:



Learning Standards Related to **FRACTURED FAIRY TALES**

ELA: RL.K.1, RL.K.2, RL.K.3, RL.K.9, RL.1.1, RL.1.2, RL.1.3, RL.1.6, RL.1.7, RL.1.9, RL.2.1, RL.2.2, RL.2.5, RL.2.9, RL.3.2, RL.3.3, RL.3.9, RL.4.2, RL.5.3; W.3.3, W.4.3, W.5.4. W.6.3

Fine Arts: Drama: K.1.CR, K.2CR, 1.1CR, 2.1CR; K.1PE, K.2PE, K.3PE, 1.1PE, 1.2PE, 1.3PE ; 2.1RE, 2.2RE, 2.3RE, 2.5RE ; K.1CO, 1.2,CO

SEL: A4.1.b, A4.1.c; C1.3a, C1.1.b, C1.2.b; C3.1.a, C3.3a

Table of Contents

Pre-Show Conversation Starters

Your Trip to the Theatre!, What Makes a Fairy Tale?Page 2

Comprehension

How to Twist a TalePage 3

Creativity

My Fractured Fairy Tale – BrainstormPage 4

My Fractured Fairy Tale – Map it OutPage 5

My Fractured Fairy Tale – Story ElementsPage 6

My Fractured Fairy Tale – Story SequencePage 7

My Fractured Fairy Tale – Compare & ContrastPage 8

My Fractured Fairy Tale!Page 9

Fairy Tale Mad LibsPage 10

Dear Dayton LivePage 11

Resources for Students and AdultsPage 12

Pre-Show Conversation Starters

Get excited for your trip to the Victoria Theatre by checking out this video!

- 1 Pickle Jean, our Audience Etiquette Monitor, helped us learn about BRAVO. Do you remember what each letter stands for?
- 2 Based on this video, what are some ways you can be the best audience member you can be?
- 3 How can you as an audience member help the performers onstage do the best job they can for you?
- 4 Is this your first visit to a theatre? If so, what are you most looking forward to?



What Makes a Fairy Tale?

Fairy tales come from folklore and have often been passed down over many centuries. They were often told orally to children to teach or entertain them.

Fairy Tale Elements

Special Beginning ► “Once upon a time...” is a familiar phrase that begins a fairy tale story. It helps tell the reader that the story happened long ago and possibly far away.

Good vs Evil ► There are definitive characters that are good that drive the plot, and there are villains that actively work against the hero/heroine’s objectives.

Magical Elements ► These stories often have many elements that do not exist or belong in the real world. This can be the setting where the story takes place or the use of magic.

Special Characters ► Mythical creatures that help the hero/heroine in their task, royalty (kings and queens), talking animals are some examples of special characters.

Problem/Solution ► The main driving force of any fairy tale is the problem that the hero/heroine must overcome. They use help from others, magical creatures or forces, and their own cleverness to reach the solution.

Moral or Lesson ► The use of heroes and villains was originally intended to teach young children the consequences of misbehavior. Fairy tales usually have a strong lesson to teach about good deeds, or a moral, to help guide your future choices. Usually, this is wrapped up by saying “happily ever after.”

How to Twist a Tale

So...what makes a fairy tale “fractured?”

A “fractured” fairy tale is a retelling of a story you’re familiar with, but there are a few changes!

For example, think about what would happen if...

- ▶ The Wolf wasn’t the bad guy in The Three Little Pigs?
- ▶ The Little Mermaid was set in outer space?
- ▶ You read a story from the point of view of Cinderella’s stepsisters?



To create a story with this twist, make one or more of the following changes:

- 1 Characters** – For example, in the book by Jon Scieszka “*The Stinky Cheese Man*,” the gingerbread man isn’t a cookie – he’s made of cheese!
- 2 Setting** – This is where the story takes place. Change the setting by considering the time period, actual location, or if it takes place inside or outside.
- 3 Point of View** – The point of view of a story is who is telling the story, or the main character and their journey. Instead of focusing on Little Red Riding Hood, think about the story through the eyes of the Wolf.
- 4 Conflict** – This is the challenge a character faces in the story. Instead of what we all know, get creative or swap conflicts from another tale.
- 4 Plot** – The plot of a story is the beginning, middle, and end. You can focus on a different part of the story, or go off book. Maybe instead of reading about Cinderella and her prince, she’s a secret pop star.
- 4 Ending** – Write a totally different ending! Is it happily ever after? Is it to be continued? **Let’s test this out!**

Fairy Tale Mash-Up!

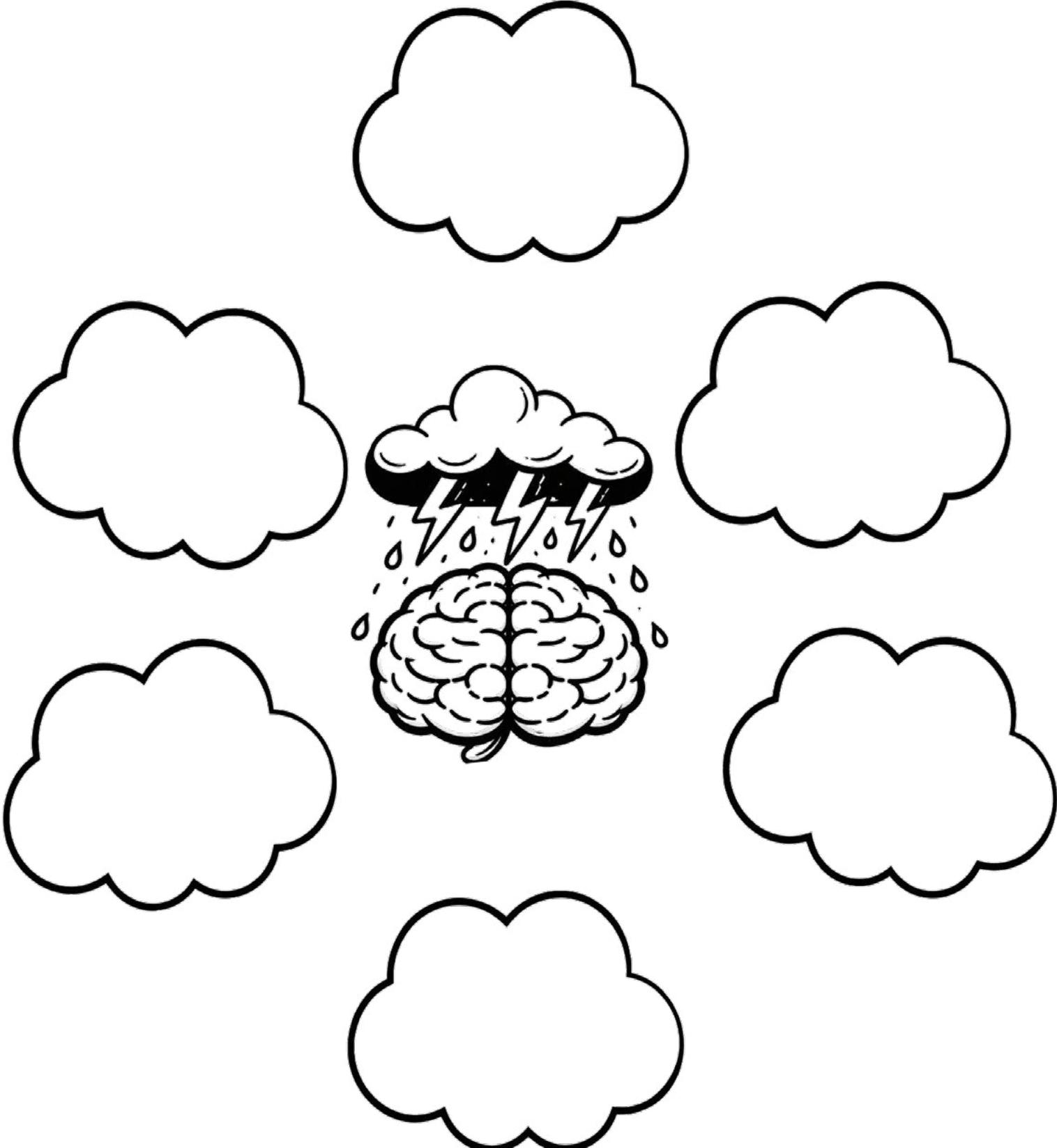
You can also fracture a fairy tale by combining two or more stories. Take two fairy tales you know well and consider:

- ▶ *Which plot will I use? Can I combine both, or make a whole new plot?*
- ▶ *What setting would work best? Should I make a new time and place?*
- ▶ *Which characters will I use from both stories?*
- ▶ *What is the central problem the characters will face? How will they over come it?*

Pair up or get into groups to outline a Fairy Tale Mash-Up! Feel free to write this out in note form, have a group discussion to share with the class, or use one of the provided organizers on the following pages.

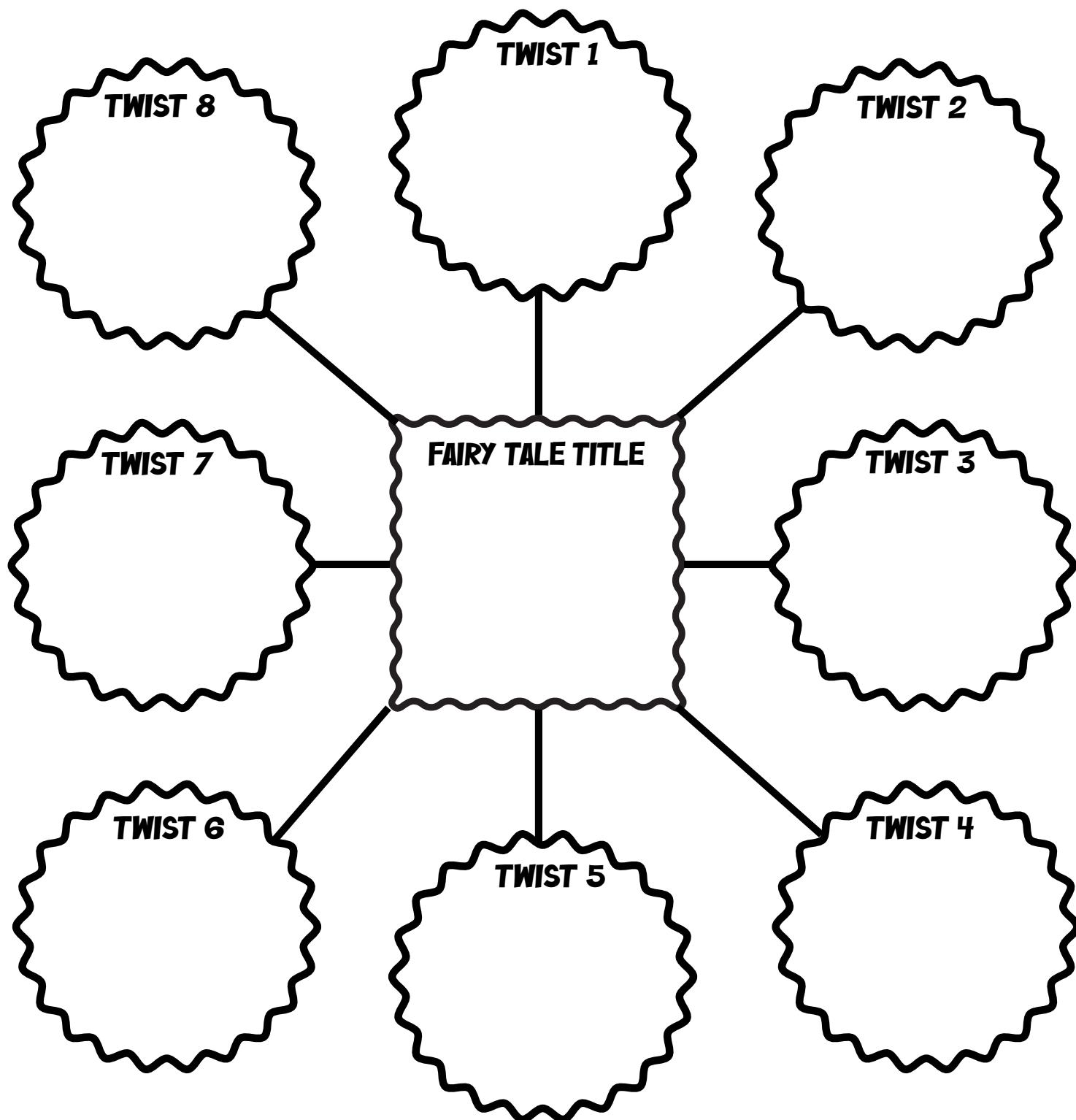
My Factured Fairy Tale – *Brainstorm!*

Brainstorm Time! What are some fairy tales that you know that you might be interested in writing about? Choose as many as you can, at least six, in the clouds below.



My Factured Fairy Tale – *Map it out!*

Plan it out! Once you've decided on your chosen tale, write the title in the center square. Use the remaining spaces to think of some ways you can twist your tale.



My Factured Fairy Tale – *Story Elements*

Story elements are the main structure of a story. Fill in the boxes below to frame out your fractured story. Iron out your characters, where the story takes place, what obstacles or problems your characters will face, and how things end up “happily ever after.”



TITLE

CHARACTERS

SETTING

PROBLEM/CHALLENGE

SOLUTION

My Factured Fairy Tale – Story Sequence

Now, lets take all your amazing ideas and give your story an order of events. Fill in the boxes below to get you ready for writing.

TITLE _____

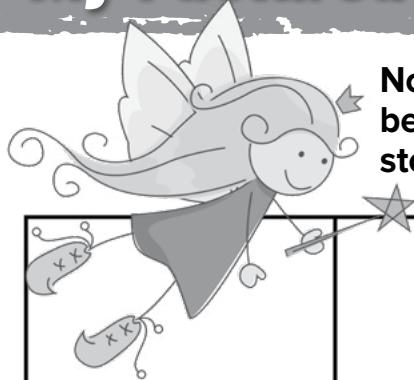
FIRST

NEXT

THEN

LAST

My Factured Fairy Tale – Compare & Contrast



Now, it's time to give some detail and order to your story. Fill in the boxes below to get you ready for writing. Be sure to write the title of the original story and yours in the top two boxes.

	Title of the Original Fairy Tale:	Title of Your Fractured Fairy Tale:
Good Characters		
“Bad” Characters		
Who is telling the story?		
Problem/Challenge:		
Solution/Ending		
What was the lesson or moral?		

My Factured Fairy Tale!

Use this page, lined paper, or a writer's notebook to write your story! Be sure to add lots of details and dialogue.

Extension: Turn it into a script! Work in a group to create a short performance of your fractured fairy tale.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Once Upon a Time

Fairy Tale Mad Libs

Have you ever played the word game Mad Libs? Each game provides a story with blanks you and/or a partner can fill in using parts of speech: nouns, verbs, and adjectives, as well as colors and numbers. To play: One **READER** does not tell the other what the story is about. Instead, they ask the other players, the **WRITERS** to give them words to fill in the blanks.

Feel free to do this activity on your own! If you'd like to have a partner or group, have one person be the **READER**, and the others be **WRITERS**. At the end, you can read your silly creation together!

Castle for Sale

Are you a king, queen, or _____ looking for that perfectly _____ new
OCCUPATION **ADJECTIVE**

home? Then have we got a/an _____ place for you! King _____ 's
ADJECTIVE **PERSON IN THE ROOM**

_____ castle has just come on the market! Originally built in the _____
ADJECTIVE **ADJECTIVE**

Ages, this lakefront wonder has towers that rise high above (the) _____ and
A PLACE

a/an _____ view that will take your _____ away. In each and every
ADJECTIVE **PART OF THE BODY**

room of this 25,000-square- _____ masterpiece, there are magnificent stained glass
PART OF THE BODY

_____ and splendid Gothic _____ -burning fireplaces. There's also
PLURAL NOUN **NOUN**

a chef's state-of-the-art, _____ modern _____ for those who love to
ADVERB **NOUN**

_____. For security and _____ privacy, there is also a moat
VERB **ADJECTIVE**

filled with _____ and a drawbridge to keep out unwanted
PLURAL NOUN

_____. Take advantage of the collapse in the castle market
PLURAL NOUN

and make a/an _____ offer on this treasure. The asking price is
ADJECTIVE

a ridiculously low _____ dollars!
NUMBER

*Happily Ever Mad Libs: World's Greatest Word Game -by Roger Price, Leonard Stern, and Mad Libs.
Pages 3, 4, 9, 10. Penguin Random House LLC. 2010.*



Dear Dayton Live

Thanks for coming today! We would love to hear about your experience at the show. Use the lines and boxes below to write and/or draw about your trip.

Dear Dayton Live,

My favorite part of the show was _____

I really loved when _____

I wish that _____

Thank you for _____

My favorite part of the show was

I really loved when

I wish that

Thank you for

Email your surveys to
discovery@daytonlive.org

or mail to: Dayton Live
Attn. Discovery
138 N. Main Street
Dayton, OH 45402

Resources for Students and Educators

Books for Students

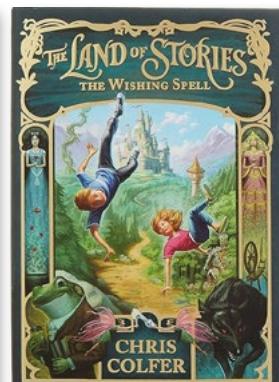
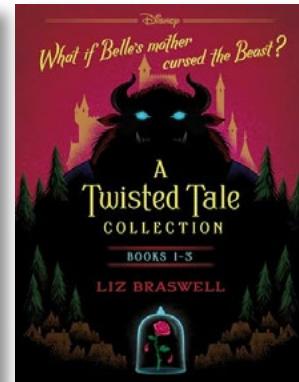
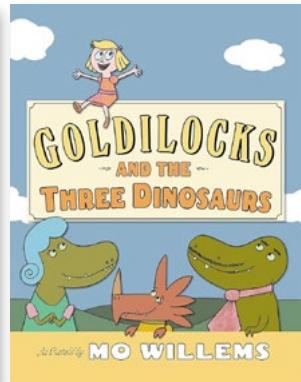
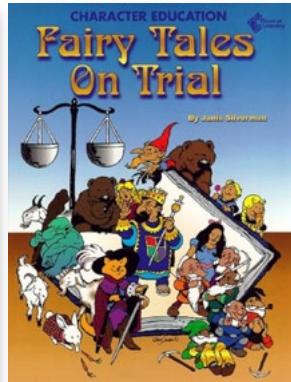
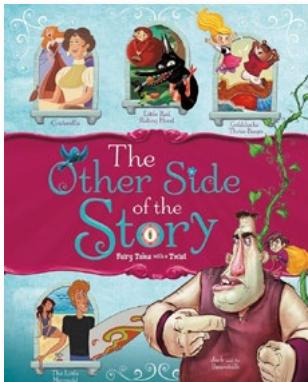
The Original Folk and Fairy Tales of Grimm Brothers: The Complete First Edition –

written by Jacob Grimm and Wilhelm Grimm. Create Space Independent Publishing Platform, 2014.

The Other Side of the Story: Fairy Tales with a Twist – written by Eric Mark Braun, Nancy Loewen, Speed Shaskan, and Trisha Sue. Picture Window Books, 2014.

Fairy Tales on Trial – written by Janis Silverman. Pieces of Learning, 1999.

The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs! – written by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Lane Smith. Scholastic. Inc. 1989.



Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs: As Retold by Mo Willems – written and illustrated by Mo Willems. Harper Collins, 2012.

Ella Enchanted – written by Gail Carson Levine. Scholastic Books. 1997

A Twisted Tale Series – written by various authors, Disney Hyperion.

The Land of Stories Series – written by Chris Colfer, cover and interior art by Brandon Dorman. Little, Brown and Company-Hachette Book Group. 2012.

Local Resources



Washington-Centerville Public Library

<https://kids.wclibrary.info/do/madlibs/> - other than a fairy tale option, the library has a handful of awesome themes to create your own mad lib stories!

Brought To You By

DAYTON LIVE

138 North Main Street Dayton, OH 45402

DAYTON LIVE DISCOVERY

The Education and Engagement programs of Dayton Live are made possible through the support and commitment of the following sponsors and donors whose generosity have opened the door of live theatre to the students of the Miami Valley:

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Troy Foundation

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Ohio Arts Council

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Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority

DAYTON LIVE CREATIVE ACADEMY

Interested in learning more about theatre?!

The Dayton Live Creative Academy offers a variety of professionally curated performing arts experiences for all ages. From classes for beginners, and summer camps for the adventurous, to Broadway after-school intensives for the curious, there are year-round activities for everyone in the family. Join us for fun, for adventure, and to develop your own creativity. This is performing arts education for **EVERYONE!**

EDUCATION AND BROADWAY PROGRAMS

Broadway Camps and Intensives

Broadway Master Classes

Background on Broadway

Bagels & Broadway

<https://www.daytonlive.org/education>

Dayton Live is an ACE Qualified Education Service Provider! Find out more about ACE funds: <https://education.ohio.gov/ohioace>

GreatWorks theatre company

Our History

GreatWorks began as the educational programming arm of Irish Repertory of Chicago. In 2005, Irish Rep decided to spin off GreatWorks as a standalone company, with **Matt O'Brien** moving from being Artistic Director of Irish Rep to taking on GreatWorks as our full-time Producing Director.



In the years since, GreatWorks has grown to include a lineup of 13 social studies and literature-based touring shows seen by tens of thousands of students every year.

The shows are performed by some of the best directing and acting talent in Chicago, artists who bring the same level of commitment and theatrical quality to your school as they do in their "night jobs" in Chicago's busy professional theatres.

Our Values

We live and work in one of the most vibrant and diverse communities in the world, and believe that the work we do should reflect that diversity. Representation matters, and we want every student to be able to see themselves onstage in the way we cast our shows. We're drawn to shows about community, courage, and compassion, and embrace the complexities of large historical questions in such a way that your students should be intrigued and challenged to dig deeper and really question why and how we got here, wherever "here" happens to be.

To find out more visit: <https://greatworkstheatre.com/about.html>

