

A TALE OF TWO FROGS

By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Outcome:

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the story through the use of phonics, illustration, writing, and discussion.

Overview:

Students will read and explore a folktale from Russia, while utilizing interdisciplinary connections in language arts, science, art, and cooking.

Materials:

Book, A Tale of Two Frogs

Scissors, crayons, pencil, lined paper, unlined paper, blackboard or white board

Small plastic chips (2 per student)

Cooking activity ingredients: 8 oranges sliced, 6 lemons sliced, 3 cinnamon sticks, whole, 1 t whole cloves, 1 qt. water, 46 oz. pineapple juice, 1 ½ cups sugar, 3 qt. hot tea, (stove or microwave, tea bags, container) strainer, large spoon, 2 gallon container, hot cups

Frog Puppet Activity: dessert size (6 ½ - 7 inches) paper plates (solid white or green), Frog Body Parts Pattern worksheet (1 per student), scissors, green broad tip marker or green paint (if using white plates), white, green, black, and red construction paper, tape or glue, crayons

Assessment Tools:

Frog Phonics worksheet

Copying Sentences worksheet

Beginning and Ending Sounds worksheet

INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

Introduction:

- Teacher explains a proverb as a short saying that expresses a basic truth about experience.
- Ask students if they have ever heard the proverb, “If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again”.
- Class discusses meaning.
- Ask class to change the last few words of the proverb but keep the same meaning. If at first you don’t succeed... (keep trying, don’t give up, try a few more times, get some help and keep trying, make yourself, keep at it...).
- Teacher shares a personal experience and asks students to relate the proverb to an experience they have had.
- Students draw a picture of a time they attempted a hard task and did not give up.
- Students dictate a sentence for teacher to write under their picture.
- Teacher combines pictures to create a class book. Students suggest titles for the book (Our Class Does Not Give Up, Our Class Succeeds....)
- Inform students that they are going to read a folktale from Russia about an adventurous frog that does not give up easily.

A TALE OF TWO FROGS

By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Introduction cont.:

- Give each student a copy of the book, A Tale of Two Frogs.
- Introduce the book to students, reading title, authors, and illustrator.
- Teacher reads story to students as students follow along in their own book.

Discussion Questions to Assess Comprehension:

- Were the frogs related to each other? How?
- Describe the younger sister.
- Describe the older sister.
- The younger frog talked her sister into leaving her lily pad in search of adventure. Where did they go?
- If you were a frog, would you have jumped into the pail?
- Why could they not get out of the pail?
- How did they get out?
- What lesson did you learn from this story?

Phonics:

- Frog Phonics worksheet

An activity for differentiated learning

Directions: Cut out the frog, the letter strip, and the slit in the frog's mouth. Feed the letter strip into the frog's mouth.

Group A: Practice with a partner reading the **og** family words created by pulling the strip through the opening.

Group B: Complete the worksheet as Group A. Copy all of the words onto lined paper.

Group C: Complete the worksheet as Group A and copy words as Group B. Complete Copying Sentences worksheet.

- Copying Sentences worksheet

Directions: Copy these sentences about the frog.

1. The frog is on the log.
2. The frog is in the fog.
3. The frog is by the dog.
4. The frog is not a hog.
5. The frog can jog.

- Beginning and Ending Sounds worksheet

Directions: Circle the first letter if the word begins with that sound. Circle the last letter if the word ends with that sound.

A TALE OF TWO FROGS

By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Language Arts:

Create the Farm

Directions: Re-read the story paying close attention to the description of the farm and the illustrations in the book.

- Students describe the farm and teacher records a list of student responses on the board.
- Students add descriptions of other parts of the farm that are not shown, based on their prior knowledge of farms (Example: a chicken coop, a pigpen, a house for the farmer, a pasture for horses, a milking barn...).
- Each student chooses one part of the farm to illustrate.
- Class combines pictures on the floor or a large table to create a map of the farm.
- Students take turns describing the farm.
- Teacher and students ask each other to give directions from one part of the farm to another. (Example: How do you get from the pond to the farmer's house?)
- Class uses "tidally winks" or other small plastic chips or markers to jump from one part of the farm to another.

Cooking:

Russian people like to eat fish, cabbage, meat, bread, dumplings, and sweets. They love to drink tea. Following is a recipe for Russian Tea.

Ingredients: 8 oranges sliced, 6 lemons sliced, 3 cinnamon sticks, whole, 1 t whole cloves, 1 qt. water, 46 oz. pineapple juice, 1 ½ cups sugar, 3 qt. hot tea, (stove or microwave, tea bags, container) strainer, large spoon, 2 gallon container

Combine fruit slices, cinnamon, cloves, and water in a large non-aluminum saucepan; bring to a boil. Boil 5 minutes. Press mixture through a strainer. Discard pulp and spices. Add pineapple juice, sugar, and tea to citrus mixture. Stir well. Serve hot.

Art:

Create a frog puppet

Materials: dessert size (6 ½ - 7 inches) paper plates (solid white or green), Frog Body Parts Pattern worksheet (1 per student), scissors, green broad tip marker or green paint (if using white plates), white, green, black, and red construction paper, tape, glue, crayons

Teacher informs students:

- Frogs have very good eyesight and they use it to help them catch insects to eat.
- When a frog sees an insect, it whips out its tongue.
- A frog's tongue can stretch a large distance. The frog catches its prey on its tongue's sticky tip.

Directions:

- Fold paper plate in half.
- Teacher cuts a one-inch slit in the center of the fold on each plate for the frog's tongue.
- Paint plate green or color with a marker. Allow plate to dry.

A TALE OF TWO FROGS

By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Art cont.:

Directions cont.:

- Making the eyes- cut out the two rectangles with rounded edge shapes from the pattern. Color the shapes green or trace onto green construction paper and cut out. Fold over each shape ½ inch on the short non-rounded end. Glue or tape this shape to the front part of the top of the paper plate about 1 ½ inches from the rim of the plate (where the frog’s eyes would be.) Place folded edge behind eyes, so they “pop up” Cut a small black circle and a slightly larger white circle. Glue the black circle to the center of the white circle or cut out two white circles and create pupils by drawing black dots. Glue each eyeball onto the green shapes that were just attached onto the frog’s head.
- Making the legs- cut both sets of legs from the pattern. Color green or trace onto green construction paper and cut out. The front legs are short. The back legs are longer. Fold each shape ½ inch on the straight edge so that you have a place to attach it to the body. Glue or tape the legs to the underside of the body.
- Cut the tongue from pattern. Color red or use to trace onto red paper and cut out. Slip it through the slit (frog’s mouth) that was cut into the plate.
- Optional- Draw an insect or spider on the frog’s tongue.
- Practice “catching flies” by extending the frog’s tongue out of its mouth.

Extension Activity:

Read two versions of the well-known story, The Wide Mouth Frog.

- Stories to Play With page 74 (Hiroko Fujita, August House 1999). This book also gives directions to make a frog puppet with a milk carton.
- Through The Grapevine page 52 (Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss August House, 2001).

Compare and contrast how two different storytellers tell this tale. Compare and contrast the young wide mouth frog with the two sister frogs in A Tale of Two Frogs.

A TALE OF TWO FROGS

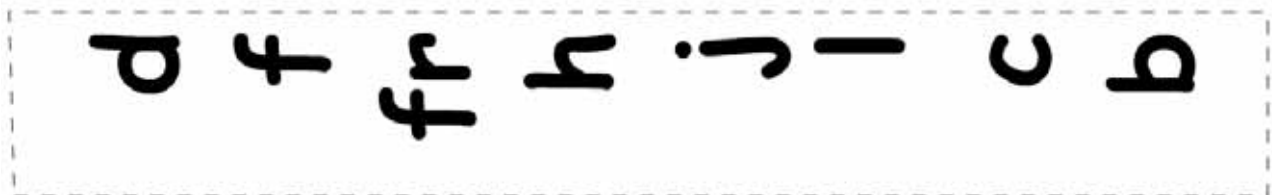
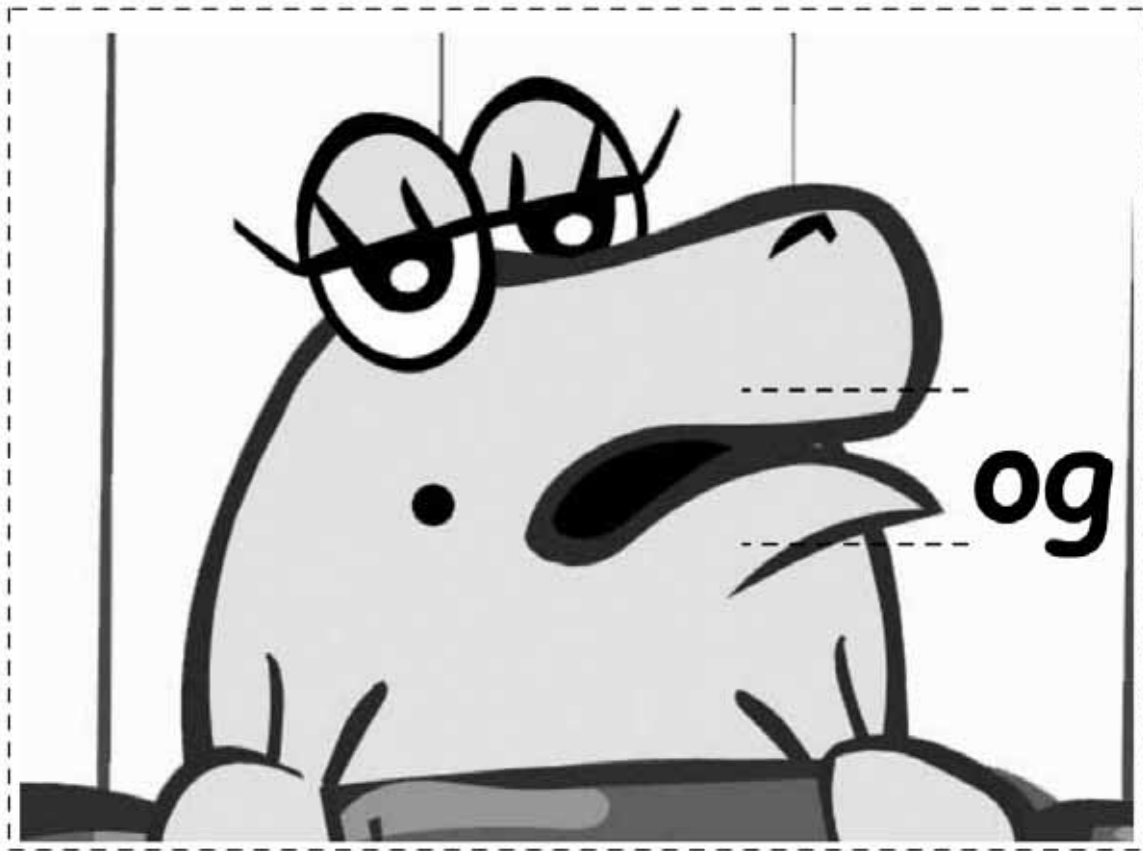
By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Name _____ Date _____

Frog Phonics

Directions: Cut out the frog, the letter strip, and the slit in the frog's mouth. Feed the letter strip into the frog's mouth.



A TALE OF TWO FROGS

By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Name _____ Date _____

Copying Sentences

Directions: Copy these sentences about the frog.

The frog is on the log.

The frog is in the fog.

The frog is by the dog.

The frog is not a hog.

The frog can jog.

A TALE OF TWO FROGS

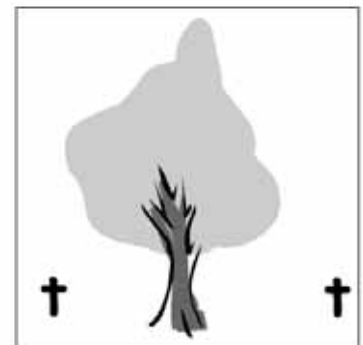
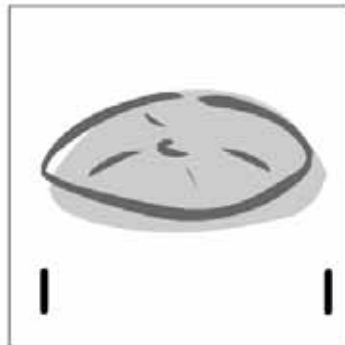
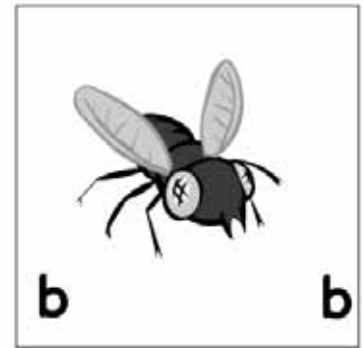
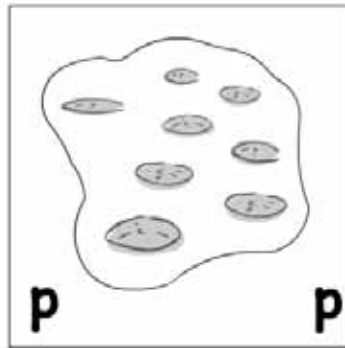
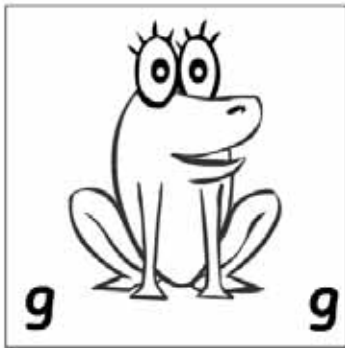
By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Name _____ Date _____

Beginning and Ending Sounds

Directions: Circle the first letter if the word begins with that sound.
Circle the last letter if the word ends with that sound.



A TALE OF TWO FROGS

By Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss

Kindergarten

Name _____ Date _____

Frog Body Parts Pattern

