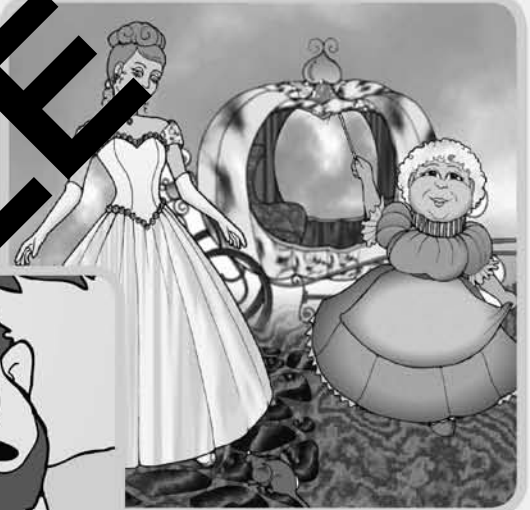


Ages 7–10

Teaching Kindness *through Fairy Tales*



By Ron Newton

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Teachers' Notes

Values

Welcome to the world of fairy tales. This is a world of handsome princes, beautiful princesses, good fairies, evil witches, dwarves, giants, dragons, fantasy and magic spells.

It is a world in which good invariably triumphs over evil and in which there are usually important values to be learned by readers of all ages, i.e. honesty, kindness, courage and so forth.

Four fairy tales have been included in this book to illustrate the value of kindness. They are:

- “Cinderella” which teaches students about being kind, even to those who are cruel.
- “The Enchanted Princess” which teaches students that kindness will be rewarded and cruelty will be punished. This fairy tale also highlights the importance of being kind to animals as well as people.
- “Rip Van Winkle” which teaches students about the rewards of living a life of kindness.
- “Snow White and Rose Red” which teaches students about the rewards of persistent kindness, even when kindness is repaid with anger and hostility.

This book includes activities which reinforce the value of kindness and enhance interest in, and understanding of, the stories.

The Stories

“Cinderella”

“Cinderella” is one of the most popular fairy tales and is the first of four stories chosen to illustrate kindness. It is a powerful story which shows how Cinderella’s life is changed for the better when her Fairy Godmother is kind to her. It also reveals how Cinderella is kind to those who have mistreated her. When Cinderella is changed forever into a beautiful princess, her stepmother and stepsisters ask her, “Can you ever forgive us?” and Cinderella readily replies, “Of course I forgive you.”

“The Enchanted Princess”

The second story teaches its readers that kindness brings rewards, while cruelty brings punishment. The story contrasts the behaviour of two brothers, one kind and gentle, the other a bully. Those hearing this story are shown the consequences of the two brothers’ behaviours. The kind brother receives unexpected blessings while a dreadful fate awaits the bully. The story shows that being kind involves effort, but that this effort results in the kind person always having friends to help him, while the life of the bully is lonely and futile. Finally, the story especially emphasizes the importance of kindness to animals.



Cinderella

★ Activity 1 ★

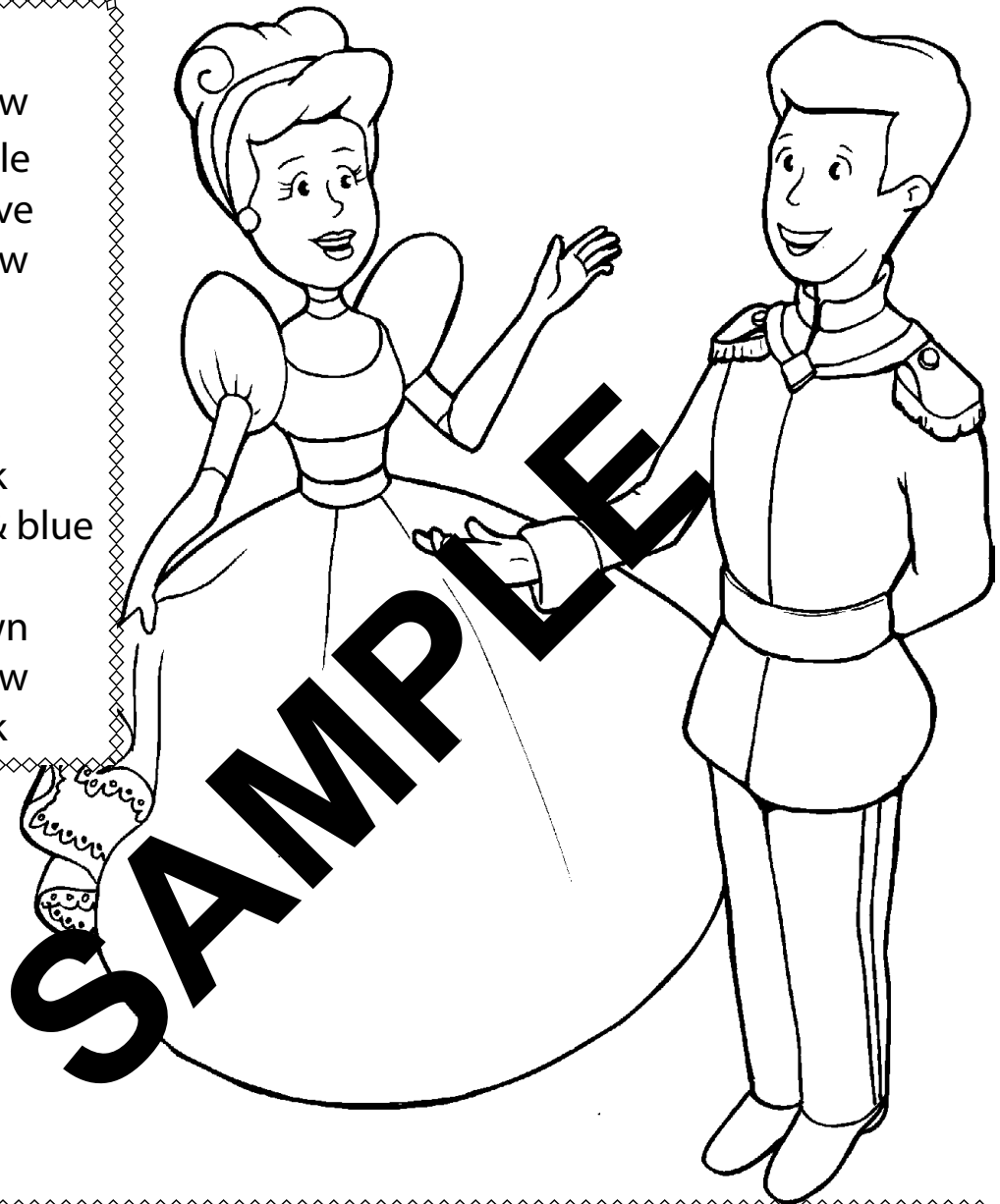
Colour the picture with these colours.

CINDERELLA

hair yellow
hairband purple
dress mauve
earring yellow
necklace red

PRINCE

pants black
jacket red & blue
belt blue
hair brown
cuffs yellow
shoes black



Questions

1. How does the Fairy Godmother's kindness lead to Cinderella attending the ball and dancing with the prince?

2. Is the Prince kind to Cinderella? Explain your answer.

3. Are there any other characters who are kind to Cinderella?

The Enchanted Princess

★ Activity 4 ★

Answer the questions below.

1. How was Hans repaid for his kindness?

2. There are two other characters in the story who are unkind. They are the wicked sorceress and the boys' father. Explain why they are unkind.

The wicked sorceress is unkind because:



The cabinet maker is unkind because:



Rip Van Winkle

★ Activity 2 ★

Colour the parts of this picture in the colours below
and answer the question.



Rip Van Winkle

socks	yellow
jacket	blue
trousers	green
shirt	red
belt	red
shoes	brown

door	brown
floor slabs	brown & grey
the rest	own choice

Question

This picture shows Rip Van Winkle as an old man in his village. On the back of this sheet explain how his former acts of kindness are rewarded.