

IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING...

Early Level

LISTENING AND TALKING

ENJOYMENT AND CHOICE
LIT 0-01B LIT 0-11B

Show children pictures of different well known nursery rhyme or fairytale characters, such as Humpty Dumpty, Cinderella, the Three Little Pigs or Little Red riding Hood. Begin by asking a volunteer to choose one of the pictures. The teacher should retell the story in very simple terms, using a couple of sentences, to the class. Now tell children to work together in pairs and to choose one of the other pictures. Explain that they should practise retelling the story in their own words. Some children may choose to draw what happens in the story instead. After five minutes, ask pairs of volunteers to share their stories with the class.

First Level

LISTENING AND TALKING/ART

FINDING AND USING INFORMATION
LIT 1-04A EXA 1-04A

Many traditional stories were told to pass on a message or to teach a moral. The storyteller Aesop lived in ancient Greece and told many short fables to pass on messages about life to his listeners. Listen to some of Aesop's fables at this link: www.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/subjects/english/aesops_fables/1-8/hare_tortoise. Decide what the message or moral of each story is. Tell children to work with a partner and to choose one of the fables. Explain that they should create finger puppets to depict the main characters. These could be made from toilet rolls, on cardboard cut-outs attached to sticks or as sock puppets, for example. Tell pairs to retell in their own words the chosen fable, using the puppets, to another pair.

Second Level

LISTENING AND TALKING

TOOLS FOR LISTENING AND TALKING
ENG 2-03A

Watch following clip of a story being told by Mara Menzies:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqwP2_JE1yQ. Tell children to look at the different techniques Mara uses to bring the story to life. Use the table provided in Additional Resources in order to help them think about the tools she uses and the effects they have on the audience.