



Fairy Tales For Everyone

STORYTIME THOUGHTS

Fairy Tales are a great tool for teaching literacy skills, and they're an even better one for broadening your child's horizons. We're all familiar with the movies we grew up with, but there's a whole universe out there full of many different stories and characters and places that aren't so well-known. During this storytime, mix the old with the new! Use the familiar stories to practice narrative skills—have your child retell the story in their own words at the end, or tell each other your favorite parts and see if they match. And use the unfamiliar stories to start learning about just how big the world really is!

EBOOKS & AUDIOBOOKS

Hoopla

- Goldy Luck And The Three Pandas
by Natasha Lim
- Why Anansi Has Eight Thin Legs
by Leah Osei
- Cinnamon
by Neil Gaiman
- Japanese Children's Favorite Stories
by Florence Sakade
- Korean Children's Favorite Stories
by So-Un Kim
- African Myths And Folk Tales
by Carter Godwin Woodson
- Peach Boy And Other Japanese Children's Favorite Stories
by Laura Gehl

PRINT BOOKS FOUND AT THE LIBRARY

- Hansel & Gretel
by Bethan Woollvin
- La Princesa and the Pea
by Susan Middleton Elya
- Little Roja Riding Hood
by Susan Middleton Elya
- Clever Katya
by Mary Hoffman
- Baba Yaga and Vasilisa the Brave
by Marianna Mayer

ACTIVITIES & GAMES

- No fairytale storytime is complete without a brave knight. Before you begin, run to the kitchen and grab the silliest thing you can. That will be your brand new knight name for the rest of this storytime! Ride on, Sir Muffin Pan!
- Some of the books on this list have many stories and minimal pictures. Have your child listen to the story and draw their own version of a scene or two. Let that creativity flow!

SONGS & RHYMES

- There Was a Princess Long Ago
- Grand Old Duke of York
- Three Brown Bears

SONGS & RHYMES LYRICS

Open Shut Them

[start with your hands closed in fists]
Open, Shut Them
[open hands & then shut them into fists again]
Open, Shut Them
[open hands & then shut them into fists again]
Give a little clap, clap, clap *[clap hands]*
Open, Shut Them
[open hands & then shut them into fists again]
Open, Shut Them
[open hands & then shut them into fists again]
Put them in your lap, lap, lap
[lay them in your lap]
Creep Them, Crawl Them, Creep Them, Crawl Them
Right up to your chin, chin, chin
[trail your fingers up to your chin]
Open wide your little mouth
[open up your mouth]
But do not let them in!
[hide your hands behind your back]
Along comes a dog, looking for some fun
[fingers of one hand resting on thumb, move hand towards other hand]

Three Brown Bears

[sung to the tune of tune of "Three Blind Mice"]

Three brown bears, three brown bears.
See all their beds, see all their chairs.
The mommy cooked in a big brown pot.
The daddy's porridge was much too hot,
The baby bear always cried a lot.
Three brown bears.

There Was a Princess Long Ago

There was a princess long ago,
Long ago, long ago
There was a princess long ago
Long, long ago

And she lived in a big high tower
A big high tower, a big high tower
And she lived in a big high tower
Long, long ago

A wicked fairy cast a spell,
Cast a spell, cast a spell
A wicked fairy cast a spell
Long, long ago

The princess slept for a hundred years
A hundred years, A hundred years
The princess slept for a hundred years
Long, long ago

A big, tall forest grew around
Grew around, grew around
A big, tall forest grew around
Long, long ago

A handsome prince came riding by
Riding by, riding by
A handsome prince came riding by
Long, long ago

He drew his sword and cut it down
Cut it down, cut it down
He drew his sword and cut it down
Long, long ago

He woke the princess with a kiss
With a kiss, with a kiss
He woke the princess with a kiss
Long, long ago

And everybody's happy now
Happy now, happy now
And everybody's happy now
Long, long ago

[View the Video](#)

SONGS & RHYMES LYRICS CONT.

The Grand Old Duke of York

[This is a lap bounce that can be modified several ways. Some parents love lifting their child up and down for that extra-intense workout, and some parents love just lifting their arms up and down in time with the rhyme! Whatever works is the right way to do it! And if you have more than one child, see if they want to get their favorite stuffed animal and bounce along with you and baby!]

Oh the Grand Old Duke of York [*Bouncing*]
He had ten thousand men
He marched them up to the top of the hill [*Up!*]
And he marched them down again [*Down!*]
And when they were up they were up [*Up!*]
And when they were down they were down [*Down!*]
And when they were only half way up
[*Halfway up...*]
They were neither up nor down! [*Up—no, down!*]

SAMPLE STORYTIME

This is a sample of how you could organize the books, songs, & rhymes, but please do what feels right for you and your little one!

Starting Song: Open Shut Them

Activity/Game: Go and find your knightly name!

Book One: Goldy Luck and the Three Pandas by Natasha Yim

Rhyme/Song: Three Brown Bears

Rhyme/Song: Grand Old Duke of York

Book Two: Cinnamon by Neil Gaiman

Rhyme/Song: There Was a Princess Long Ago

Book Three: “The Magic Teakettle” from Japanese Children’s Favorite Stories by Florence Sakade

After Storytime Activity/Game: Draw the magic teakettle doing something silly!