

Chicken Little: The Real and Totally True Tale

Chicken Little: The Real and Totally True Tale

Book by Sam Wedelich

Ages: 4-8; Grades: K-3

Themes: Folktales and Fables, Feelings, Animals and Pets, Humor

SUMMARY

“The sky is falling! The sky is falling!”

Most of us attribute this classic, fairy tale phrase to the timeless tale of Chicken Little. But what if the sky is, well...not falling? In *Chicken Little: The Real and Totally True Tale*, Chicken Little learns just how quickly false information can spread. When our favorite barnyard hero accidentally convinces her feathered friends that the sky is falling, she must use logic and reasoning to fight the spread of misinformation.

Common Core Connections:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1

Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3

Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.5

Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.4

With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will discuss leadership.
- Students will study a person who expressed her or himself for the benefit of others.
- Students will determine the message of the movie through noticing repetition.

MATERIALS

- Board or easel
- *Chicken Little: The Totally True Tale* movie
- *Chicken Little: The Totally True Tale* text copies
- Computer/tablets
- Printer
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Colored pencils or markers

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Discuss the theme of “fact vs. fiction” with the students. Guiding questions may include:

- What is a fact? How can a fact be proven?
- What is a rumor?
- Sometimes, rumors are so widely believed that people don’t know the real facts anymore. How might rumors be spread?
- What does it mean to “fact-check” something?
- How can we help stop the spread of fake information?

As the discussion takes place, write the students’ responses on the board/easel.

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Reconvene the class to discuss the movie and check for comprehension. Guiding questions may include:

- Identify the 5 Ws of this story.
- What rumor does Chicken Little start?
- How does Chicken Little accidentally start this rumor?
- How do the others respond to the rumor?
- What does Chicken Little do to help prove that the rumor is fake?

Throughout the discussion, write the students’ responses on the board. What is written on the board will help guide students through their classwork.

After the discussion, students will work in pairs to create a newspaper article about the events of the story. Their article should include the following:

- A catchy headline or title
- 1-3 illustrations
- A detailed and accurate summary of the story
- A “quote” from Chicken Little (Students will create this themselves. What do they think Chicken Little would say about what happened?)

Each pair should be given a copy of the book to help them with the writing process.

Students will type their newspaper articles on tablets or computers. When they’re done typing, they will print their articles out and cut/paste them onto a poster board. They will then illustrate the poster board with drawings inspired by the story.

ENRICHMENT

For a new and different challenge, students can write and perform a series of interviews with different characters from the story. These interviews should “set the record straight” about what happened in the story. Students can perform the interviews as live skits or they can record them using a tablet/camera.

OTHER CLASSIC FABLES & FOLKTALES FROM WESTON WOODS

Goldilocks and the Three Bears by James Marshall
Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs retold by Mo Willems
Hansel and Gretel by James Marshall
The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by Lane Smith

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