



Isabella: Star of the Story

A Common Core State Standards-aligned Guide

Grades K–2

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Pre-Reading Questions & Activities

As a class, examine the front cover and discuss it. Does the book look like it's another Isabella story? How can you tell? What do you think it's about? What do you think the symbols on the front cover are? What were the pictures on the previous two covers?

In this book, Isabella becomes characters from classic books. Ask students if they have heard of these books. Obtain copies from the library so students can see them. With the aid of the "Stories for All Time" section in the book, briefly summarize each story and its main character for the class. Ask students to share what they know about the stories. Have they heard these stories? Have they seen the movie versions?

Stories Mentioned in *Isabella: Star of the Story*:

Peter Pan

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Black Beauty

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Do a picture book walk-through. Working as a class, closely examine the illustrations on each page. Identify and discuss each of the books that appear in *Isabella: Star of the Story*.

Discussion Questions & Activities

The Place, the Thing

Where does Isabella's latest adventure take place? Ask students to provide evidence to support their answers.

RLK.1, RL1.1, RL2.1, RLK.3, RL1.3, RLK.7, RL1.7, RL2.7

You Are What You Read

In this book, Isabella imagines herself as the main character in some classic stories. The illustrations are full of hidden clues showing readers what book is coming up next. Working as a class, match each character Isabella becomes to the book the character is from. Once you have identified the book, turn one page. As a group, ask students to look for clues that tell what story is coming next. Are all the clues in the main illustration? Or are there others elsewhere on the pages?

RLK.1, RL1.1, RL2.1, RLK.3, RL1.3, RLK.7, RL1.7, RL2.7

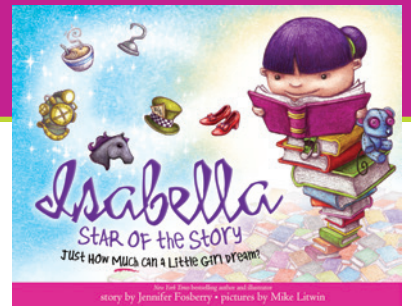
Seeing the Pictures

When Isabella switches between being in the library and imagining herself in the stories, some things from the real world appear in her imaginary one (e.g., the "Reading Is Magical" rainbow appears on *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* pages as a real rainbow). As a class, identify these elements.

RLK.1, RL1.1, RL2.1, RLK.7, RL1.7, RL2.7



Continued...



Discussion Questions & Activities Cont....

In Your Own Library

Working individually, have students think about some of their favorite books and characters: What book would you like to inhabit? What character would you be? Draw a picture of yourself as this character. What things in the real world would become part of your book world? Write a sentence or two explaining why you chose this book.

RLK.1, RL1.1, RL2.1, RLK.7, RL1.7, RL2.7, WK.1, W1.1, W2.1

Put Yourself in Her Shoes

Isabella visits several classical stories. Have each student select their favorite story from among the ones she visits. Have students break into pairs to discuss their selections. Then come together as a class and share their choices.

SLK.1, SL1.1, SL2.1, SLK.2, SL1.2, SL2.2



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