



albatros

# WHAT A WILD STORY, MINIMONI!



## GUIDE FOR TEACHERS



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**Curriculum:** Reading Literature; Speaking and Listening; Writing;  
Civic Participation & Collaboration; Theatre; Visual Arts

● AGES 3-6

● GRADES K-1

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# BEFORE READING

## Essential Questions

1. How do characters help tell a story?
2. How can we use our imagination to change a story?
3. How can people work together to create something new?

## Discussion Questions

Look at the title and illustrations on the cover of the text. What do you think this story might be about?

What thoughts do you have as you read the blurb on the back cover of the book?

Why do authors write stories?

Where do story ideas come from?

What do you think will make this a “wild story”?

Have you ever made up a wild story? What was it about?

Do you know any stories about knights, dragons, or princesses?

What usually happens in those stories?

Do you think stories always have to follow the same rules?



# DURING READING

## Discussion Questions

What is the setting of this story?

What are some words that the author uses to describe the beast?

Are there any words you are not familiar with?

Is there more than one setting? How do you know?

Why don't Minimoni and her friends want to follow the original script?

What changes do Minimoni and her friends make to the story?

How do the characters show their imagination and creativity?

Look at the illustrations in the text and match the facial expressions of the characters you are reading about.

## Movement and Performance

Reread the story aloud or listen to it again. Perform the movements below whenever one of these characters appears.

- **Knight** » march with a sword
- **Dragon** » flap arms and stomp
- **Princess** » twirl
- **Minimoni** » tiptoe thinking



# AFTER READING

## Discussion Questions

What play were the children supposed to perform?

Why did Minimoni want to change the legend of Saint George?

What are some funny or unexpected changes that the characters made to the story?

How did the new story become different from the traditional one?

How did the characters work together?

What message do you think the author wants the readers to learn?

Is there a famous story that you'd like to change?

Is it okay to have different ideas from classmates or friends?

## Drama

The characters in this book go through all sorts of emotions throughout the story. What do your facial features and body look like when they feel the emotions that the characters experienced? Practice expressing the emotions that appear in the text like fear, bravery, and surprise.

# AFTER READING

## Adjectives and Antonyms

Below are some words that the author used to describe the dragon throughout the text:

*evil, fearsome, huge, ferocious, awful*

An antonym is a word that is the opposite of another word. Choose 5 words below that are the antonyms of the words above. Create and illustrate your own creature for your own wild story!

My creature is:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Class Play

Work with your classmates to create your own short play. Decide on the characters and think of a wild, silly, or creative problem that your characters encounter!

Examples:

- A dragon that is afraid of mice
- A knight who can't stop dancing
- A princess who saves a dragon



# AFTER READING

## Rewrite a Fairy Tale

Rewrite and illustrate a scene or story ending from a well-known fairy tale. You may choose one from the list below or think of your own!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Cinderella</b></li><li>• <b>The Three Little Pigs</b></li><li>• <b>Rapunzel</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Little Red Riding Hood</b></li><li>• <b>The Ugly Duckling</b></li><li>• <b>The Three Bears</b></li></ul>
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# AFTER READING

## Vocabulary

Use actions, pictures, or words to represent each vocabulary word below.

<b>adventure</b>	<b>knight</b>	<b>dragon</b>
<b>damsel</b>	<b>kingdom</b>	<b>story</b>
<b>play</b>	<b>imagination</b>	<b>literature</b>
<b>adventure</b>	<b>livestock</b>	<b>maidens</b>

# LET'S PLAY TOGETHER

**BE A STORYTELLER!** Create your own little theater and tell stories and fairy tales. The plot is entirely up to you.

**INSTRUCTIONS** for a classic shoebox puppet theater:

**Materials:** Shoe box, scissors/cutter, glue/tape, colored paper or paint, skewers/cooking sticks.

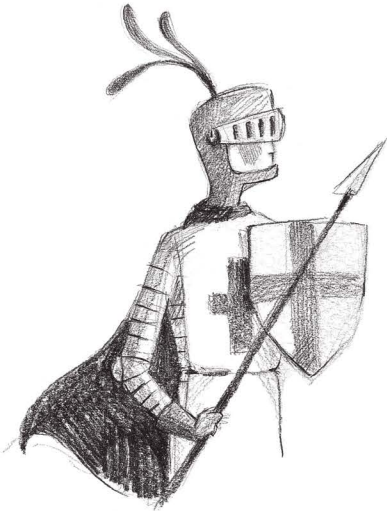
1. Portal: Cut a rectangular opening in the bottom of the shoe box—this will be the stage.
2. Curtain: You can make a curtain out of colored paper or fabric and glue it around the opening.
3. Backdrops: Paint the inside of the box (the back wall) or cover it with paper (forest, castle, bedroom).
4. Puppets: Draw the characters on cardstock, cut them out, and glue them onto skewers.

# LET'S PLAY TOGETHER



# LET'S PLAY TOGETHER

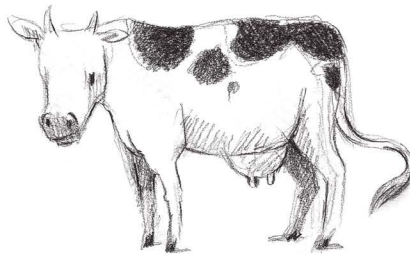
Print your own characters! With them you will be able to act out your own version of the fairy tale. Or make up a whole new story!



FER



MINIMONI



TAMI



PEPA



MAX

