
WIT & WISDOM PARENT TIP SHEET

WHAT IS MY GRADE 1 STUDENT LEARNING IN MODULE 4?

Wit & Wisdom is our English curriculum. It builds knowledge of key topics in history, science, and literature through the study of excellent texts. By reading and responding to stories and nonfiction texts, we will build knowledge of the following topics:

Module 1: A World of Books

Module 2: Creature Features

Module 3: Powerful Forces

Module 4: Cinderella Stories

In Module 4, *Cinderella Stories*, students discover that while there are thousands of versions of the Cinderella story, the stories are united by common elements and themes. Changes to the setting do not disrupt the magic of these tales or their ability to impart the importance of kindness, forgiveness, and belief in good triumphing over evil. We will ask the question: *Why do people around the world admire Cinderella?*

OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE BOOKS:

Picture Books (Literary)

- *Cinderella*, Marcia Brown
- *Cendrillon: A Caribbean Cinderella*, Robert D. San Souci; Illustrations, Brian Pinkney
- *The Rough-Face Girl*, Rafe Martin; Illustrations, David Shannon
- *Bigfoot Cinderrrrrella*, Tony Johnston; Illustrations, James Warhola
- *The Korean Cinderella*, Shirley Climo; Illustrations, Ruth Heller
- *Adelita*, Tomie dePaola
- *Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella*, Paul Fleischman; Illustrations, Julie Paschkis

OUR CLASS WILL WATCH THESE VIDEOS:

- “Kudhinda Screen Printing”
- “The Process of Making Batik—Artisans at work”
- “Wycinanka/Paper Cutout”

OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE ARTICLES:

- “900 Cinderellas,” Marcia Amidon Lusted & Judith C. Greenfield

OUR CLASS WILL EXAMINE THESE PAINTINGS:

- *First Steps*, Jean-Francois Millet
- *First Steps, after Millet*, Vincent van Gogh
- *First Steps*, Pablo Picasso

OUR CLASS WILL VISIT THESE WEBSITES:

- “Around the World,” *TIME for Kids*
- “Talking Textiles,” *The Children’s University of Manchester*

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

- Why do people admire Perrault’s Cinderella?
- Why do people admire Rough-Face Girl and Ella?
- Why do people admire Adelita and Pear Blossom?

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT HOME:

As you read with your Grade 1 student, ask:

- How does this text build your knowledge of Cinderella stories? Share what you know about Cinderella stories.

BOOKS TO READ AT HOME:

- *Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters*, John Steptoe
- *Sootface: An Ojibwa Cinderella Story*, Robert D. San Souci
- *Cinderella/Centicienta**, Francesc Boada
- *Vincent van Gogh: Getting to Know the Artist*, Mike Venezia
- *Pablo Picasso: Getting to Know the Artist*, Mike Venezia
- *Cinderella Penguin*, Janet Perlman
- *Irish Cinderlad*, Shirley Climo
- *Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella from China*, Ai-Ling Louie
- *Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China*, Ed Young
- *The Golden Sandal: A Middle Eastern Cinderella Story*, Rebecca Hickox
- *Spotlight on South Korea*, Bobbie Kalman
- *This is Ireland*, Miroslav Sasek
- *Vincent’s Colors*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

*This text is written in both English and Spanish.

IDEAS FOR TALKING ABOUT CINDERELLA STORIES:

- Visit a library together. Ask the librarian to recommend another book about Cinderella, or select one of the titles from the list above. As you read the text with your child, ask:
 - What traits do you admire about the Cinderella character?
 - What traits do you not admire about some of the other characters in the story?
 - What elements of Cinderella stories do you recognize? Follow up with: What are the good and evil characters, magical element, and proof of identity in this story?
 - What are some similarities and differences between the Cinderella character in this story and that character in another Cinderella story that we read?
 - Who was telling the story in this part we just read? How do you know?