

Lesson Plan

Goldilocks and the Three Bears



About the Book

Text Type: Fiction/Fairy Tale Page Count: 14 Word Count: 340

Book Summary

The classic fairy tale *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* is retold with rich description at three reading levels. The story invites readers to enjoy the adventures of a girl who happens upon a cottage in the forest and finds three bowls of porridge, three chairs, and three beds. What surprises await the family that lives in the cottage? Use *Goldilocks and the Other Three Bears* to show students how a change in the portrayal of the characters can give the story a different view.

Book and lesson also available at Levels L and P.

About the Lesson

Targeted Reading Strategy

- Retell

Objectives

- Retell to understand and remember story events
- Understand and identify cause-and-effect relationships
- Compare and contrast
- Recognize short vowel /o/ sound
- Recognize *-ight* vowel pattern
- Recognize past-tense verbs
- Identify and use homophones

Materials

Green text indicates resources available on the website

- Books—*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *Goldilocks and the Other Three Bears* (copy for each student)
- Chalkboard or dry-erase board
- Sticky notes
- Cause and effect, compare and contrast, past-tense verbs, homophones worksheets
- Discussion cards



Indicates an opportunity for students to mark in the book. (All activities may be demonstrated by projecting the book on an interactive whiteboard or completed with paper and pencil if the books are reused.)

Vocabulary

*Bold vocabulary words also appear in a pre-made lesson for this title on VocabularyA-Z.com.

- High-frequency words: *once*, *right*, *said*, *there*, *too*, *upon*, *went*
- Content words:

Story critical: *answered* (v.), *knocked* (v.), *medium* (adj.), *porridge* (n.), *returned* (v.), *youngster* (n.)

Enrichment: *climbed* (v.), *owners* (n.)

Before Reading

Build Background

- Discuss traditional fairy tales that students have read or heard of, such as *The Three Little Pigs* or *Little Red Riding Hood*. Ask students to name several common elements of fairy tales (good and evil characters; magic can happen; characteristics of the plot, setting, or characters occurs in threes; wise people or other animals help to solve a problem, and so on).

Preview the Book

Introduce the Book

- Give students their copy of the book. Guide them to the front and back covers and read the title. Have students discuss what they see on the covers. Encourage them to offer ideas as to what type of book it is and what it might be about.
- Show students the title page. Discuss the information on the page (title of book, author's name, illustrator's name).

Introduce the Reading Strategy: Retell

- Explain to students that one way to understand and remember what they are reading is to stop often while reading to retell in their mind what is happening in the story.
- Explain to students that when someone retells something, he or she explains the details of what happened in order. Point out that people retell stories as part of their daily lives, such as explaining what happened in school to a student who was absent. Ask students to share other examples of when people might give a retelling.
- Model retelling a familiar story in detail, such as *The Three Little Pigs*.
Think-aloud: *In The Three Little Pigs, three pigs each decide to build a house. The first pig decides to make his house out of straw. He gathers all of the materials and builds his house. The second pig decides to build his house out of sticks. He gathers all of the materials and builds his house. The third pig gathers the materials to build his house out of bricks. One day a big bad wolf comes to the house of the first little pig. He wants the little pig to let him inside and says, "I'll huff and I'll puff, and I'll blow your house down."*
- Continue retelling in detail to the end of the story. Invite students to suggest information for the retelling of this story.
- Have students place sticky notes on pages 5, 7, 9, and 12. Explain that as they read, they should stop on these pages to think about what has happened in the story.
- As students read, encourage them to use other reading strategies in addition to the targeted strategy presented in this section.

Introduce the Comprehension Skill: Cause and effect

- Review or explain that a *cause* is an event that makes something happen, and the *effect* is what happens because of, or as a result of, the event. Create a two-column chart on the board with the headings *Cause* and *Effect*. Write the following sentence on the board under the *Cause* heading:
I hit a baseball through a window.
- Model identifying a series of cause-and-effect relationships.
Think-aloud: *If I hit a baseball through a window, the window might break and I might have to pay for the window. If I had to pay for the window, I would have to take money out of my savings. If I had to take money out of my savings, I wouldn't have enough money to buy the item I was saving money for. Sometimes a cause and its effect cause other events to happen.*
- Retell the series of cause-and-effect relationships about the baseball. Ask students to identify the causes and effects. Write each cause and its effect on the chart on the board. When finished, point out how each cause-and-effect relationship leads to other cause-and-effect relationships.

Introduce the Vocabulary

- As students preview the book, ask them to talk about what they see in the illustrations. Reinforce the vocabulary words they will encounter in the text.
- Model how to apply word-attack strategies. Have students find the word *porridge* on page 4. Explain that students can look at the letter the word begins with and then use what they know about syllables and vowels (one vowel sound per syllable) to sound out the rest of the word. Point out that this word has a silent letter *e* at the end of the word. Encourage students to look for a clue to the word's meaning in the sentence. Point out that clues are sometimes found in nearby sentences, or in the illustrations.
- Model how students can use the dictionary to find a word's meaning. Have a volunteer read the definition for *porridge* in the dictionary. Have students follow along on page 4 as you read the sentences in which the word *porridge* is found to confirm the meaning of the word.
- As necessary, preview other vocabulary, such as *answered*, *returned*, and *youngster*, in a similar fashion before students begin reading.

Set the Purpose

- Have students read to find out what happens to Goldilocks and the three bears. Remind them to stop reading at the end of each page with a sticky note to retell in their mind the details of the events so far in the story. Have them think about the events that happened first, next, and last.

During Reading


Student Reading

- **Guide the reading:** Cut out pages 3 through 5 from an extra copy of the book. Place the pages in a pocket chart or display them on an interactive whiteboard. Have students read to the end of page 5. If they finish before everyone else, have them go back and reread.
- Model retelling the events of the story using the illustrations as a guide.
Think-aloud: *I stopped after a few pages to retell in my mind what I had read so far. First, Goldilocks took a walk in the woods and found a house. No one was home, so she went inside. Then she found three bowls of porridge. The big bowl was too hot, and the medium bowl was too cold, but the small bowl was just right. She ate all the porridge from the small bowl.*
- Remind students that a retelling includes detail and description about the events of a story, while a sequence of events lists only the most important events that someone would need to know to tell the story correctly.
- Create a cause-and-effect chain on the board. Write *no one was home* under the *Cause* heading. Ask students to use the text and think-aloud discussion to identify the effect of this cause (*Goldilocks went inside*). Write this information on the chart under the *Effect* heading.
- Introduce and explain the **cause-and-effect worksheet**. Ask students to write the information from the board on their worksheet. Have them identify and write on their worksheet a cause-and-effect relationship that happened as a result of Goldilocks going inside. (*Cause:* She found and tasted three bowls of porridge; *Effect:* She liked Baby Bear's porridge and ate it all.) Point out how the chain connects the first cause-and-effect relationship with the second (the effect, *Goldilocks went inside*, is connected to the next cause, *She found and tasted three bowls of porridge*).
- **Check for understanding:** Have students read to the end of page 7. Cut out pages 6 and 7 and place them in the pocket chart, next to the pages from the beginning of the story. Ask students to use the illustrations as a guide to retell the details of pages 6 and 7 to a partner. Listen to students' retellings for correct order and description of the story events. Discuss the retelling of these pages as a class.

Lesson Plan *(continued)*

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- Have students identify and write on their worksheet a cause-and-effect relationship that happened as a result of Goldilocks eating the small bowl of porridge. (*Cause*: Goldilocks was full and wanted to sit; *Effect*: She found and sampled three chairs.) Point out how the chain connects the second cause-and-effect relationship with the third (the effect, *She liked the porridge and ate it all*, is connected to the next cause, *Goldilocks was full and wanted to sit*).
- Have students read the remainder of the story. Remind them to continue stopping on pages with sticky notes to retell in their mind the details of the story.

 Have students make a question mark in their book beside any word they do not understand or cannot pronounce. Encourage them to use the strategies they have learned to read each word and figure out its meaning.

After Reading

- Ask students what words, if any, they marked in their book. Use this opportunity to model how they can read these words using decoding strategies and context clues.

Reflect on the Reading Strategy

- Retell in detail the events of the story from pages 10 through 12, using the illustrations from the book.
Think-aloud: A sleepy Goldilocks wandered upstairs to find a bed to sleep in. Papa Bear's huge bed was too hard, and Mama Bear's medium-sized bed was too soft, but Baby Bear's small bed was just right. Later, the Bear family returned home to find that someone had been eating their porridge and sitting in their chairs. Baby Bear found that his small chair was broken.
- Have volunteers retell the events to the end of the book, using the illustrations from pages 10, 11, and 12.
- **Independent practice**: Have students retell the story to a partner, starting at the beginning. Listen for whether they include the following: main characters, setting, correct events in order, and events in detail.
- Ask students how retelling the events of the story in their mind as they read helped them understand the story.

Reflect on the Comprehension Skill

- **Discussion**: Discuss with students the information on their cause-and-effect worksheet. Point out the last effect in the chain. (*She found and sampled three chairs.*) Have students reread page 9 to identify the cause-and-effect relationship that happened as a result of a sleepy Goldilocks searching for a bed. (*Cause*: Goldilocks was sleepy and wanted to lie down; *Effect*: She found and tried out three different beds.)
- **Independent practice**: Have students complete the cause-and-effect worksheet. If time allows, discuss their responses.
- **Enduring understanding**: In this book, you read about a curious girl who made herself at home in a cottage that was not hers. She ate someone else's food, broke their furniture, and was discovered sleeping in their bed. Now that you know this, why is it important not to take or use something that is not yours and to take responsibility for your actions?

Build Skills

Comprehension: Compare and Contrast

- After reading *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, introduce *Goldilocks and the Other Three Bears* to students.
- Ask students how these two books might differ from each other. Write their responses on the board under the headings *similar* and *different*.
- Have students read *Goldilocks and the Other Three Bears*. Remind them to pay close attention to the illustrations as they read.



Check for understanding: Have students turn to page 6 and 7 of both books. Have them highlight areas of *Goldilocks and the Other Three Bears* that are the same as *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. They can highlight illustrations, too. Discuss the differences between the two books on these two pages.

- **Independent practice:** Introduce, explain, and have students complete the **compare-and-contrast worksheet**. Remind students that the illustrations play an important role in deciding the similarities and differences between the two stories. If time allows, discuss their responses.

Phonological Awareness: **Short vowel /o/ sound**

- Review with students the short vowel /o/ sound with words from the book: *Goldilocks*, *knocked*, *hot*, *soft*. Have students listen for the short vowel /o/ sound as you say the words and ask them to repeat the sound and the words.
- **Check for understanding:** Explain to students you are going to say a list of words. Have them give the thumbs-up sign when they hear the short vowel /o/ sound in a word. Say: *problem*, *porridge*, *fox*, *robin*, *chair*, *thought*, *belong*, *bears*, *done*, *proper*, *hot*, *not*, *ran*.

Phonics: **Vowel pattern -ight**

- Write the word *right* on the board using one color for the letter *r* and a different color for *-ight*.
- Explain to students that *-ight* is a word pattern or word family. If we look at these letters as one chunk of information we can use it to help us make and read other words with the same chunk sound.
- Covering up the *r*, say *-ight* and have students repeat. Then uncover the *r* and say the word *right*, putting emphasis on each sound.
- Change the *r* to *br* and repeat the step. Point out to students that by changing only the initial sound we can make a new word.
- **Check for understanding:** Write the following sentence on the board: *On a full moon night you can walk under the moon's bright light*. Have students copy the sentence on another sheet of paper and circle the initial sound and underline the word family chunk for each *-ight* word. Then have them read the sentence to a partner.
- **Independent practice:** Have students generate a list of *-ight* words. Have them use two different colors to distinguish the initial sound from the word family chunk.

Grammar and Mechanics: **Past-tense verbs**

- Ask students to turn to page 3. Read the page aloud as students follow along. Point to the word *knocked*. Explain that the word *knocked* is a *verb* and that it refers to an action that already happened.
- Ask a volunteer for the present-tense form of the word *knocked* (*knock*). Point out the suffix *-ed* in the word *knocked*. Explain that the *-ed* letter combination at the end of a verb often tells the reader that the action happened in the past and is called a *past-tense verb*.
- Have students locate the word *answered* on page 3. Ask a volunteer for the present tense of the word (*answer*). Again, point out the *-ed* suffix at the end of the word. Invite students to locate another past-tense verb on page 3 (*walked*).



Check for understanding: Have students identify and circle past-tense verbs throughout the text. (*tasted*, *climbed*, *returned*, *jumped*, and so on).


- **Independent practice:** Introduce, explain, and have students complete the **past-tense-verbs worksheet**. If time allows, discuss their responses.

Word Work: **Homophones**

- Have students turn to page 6. Read the following sentence aloud: *"This chair is still too big."* Have them point to the word *too*. Ask students to explain what the word means (more than enough, or very).

Lesson Plan *(continued)*

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- Have students turn to page 14. Read the following sentence aloud: *Goldilocks never again went to the home of the three bears.* Have them point to the word *to*. Ask students to explain what the word *to* means (at a certain place).
 - Ask students to identify which words in the sentences sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings (*too, to*). Write these words on the board. Explain to students that words that sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings are called *homophones*. Ask a volunteer to name another homophone that sounds like *too* and *to*, but has a different meaning and spelling (*two*—the number after one).
 - Repeat the process for *there* (page 13: “*And she’s still there!*”) and *their* (page 12: *The hungry bears saw their chairs*). Ask students for an example of another homophone that sounds like these two words but has a different meaning and spelling (*they’re*). Have students think of a sentence of their own that contains the word *they’re*. Encourage volunteers to share their examples.
-  Have students turn to page 3 and find and circle all of the words that have homophone pairs. Have them write the homophones in the right-hand margin of the book (*time/thyme, there/their/they’re, for/four, in/inn, one/won, wood/would, no/know, so/sew*). Write these pairs on the board.
- **Check for understanding:** Write the homophones *here* and *hear* on the board. Have students use each word in a sentence on a separate piece of paper. Invite them to share their sentences aloud.
 - **Independent practice:** Introduce, explain, and have students complete the [homophones worksheet](#). If time allows, discuss their answers aloud.

Build Fluency

Independent Reading

- Invite students to read their book independently. Additionally, partners can take turns reading parts of the book to each other.

Home Connection

- Give students their book to take home to read with parents, caregivers, siblings, or friends. Have them discuss with someone at home how to retell the story in their mind as they read.

Extend the Reading

Fairy Tale Writing and Art Connection

Encourage students to write a story about a curious little boy who happens upon a deserted cave. Have writers decide which animal the cave belongs to, and tell them to choose three things that the boy discovers and uses as if they are his own. Instruct them to write in the same style as *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, personalizing the animals with dialogue and feelings. If time allows, encourage students to illustrate their work. Have students read their final product aloud to their classmates. Bind their final copies together, titled *Our Book of Fairy Tales*, and add a copy of the book to the class library.

Social Studies Connection

Facilitate a class discussion about respecting other people’s property. Ask students to think about why it is important to treat someone else’s belongings better than they might even treat their own. Ask them if another person has ever broken or been disrespectful to something of theirs that they really liked, and how they felt about it. Have students write about their experience, being sure to include the emotions they felt as a part of the experience. Have students share their writing in small groups and ask others to offer positive ways to handle the situation should something similar happen in the future.

Skill Review

Discussion cards covering comprehension skills and strategies not explicitly taught with the book are provided as an extension activity. The following is a list of some ways these cards can be used with students:

- Use as discussion starters for literature circles.
- Have students choose one or more cards and write a response, either as an essay or as a journal entry.
- Distribute before reading the book and have students use one of the questions as a purpose for reading.
- Conduct a class discussion as a review before the book quiz.

Assessment

Monitor students to determine if they can:

- accurately and consistently demonstrate retelling the story during discussion
- consistently understand and identify cause-and-effect relationships in the text during discussion and on a worksheet
- correctly identify similarities and differences between two books during discussion and on a worksheet
- consistently read and recognize short vowel /o/ sound
- accurately recognize and generate words with the vowel pattern *-ight*
- correctly identify and understand the formation of past-tense verbs during discussion and on a worksheet
- accurately identify and understand the use of homophones during discussion and on a worksheet

Comprehension Checks

- **Book Quiz—*Goldilocks and the Three Bears***
- **Book Quiz—*Goldilocks and the Other Three Bears***
- **Retelling Rubric**