

Story Extension Activity for Fox's Warm Blanket

Refer to the Story Fox's Warm Blanket by Dr. Mike Lockett www.mikelockett.com © 2010

Creative Dramatics – Act out the story – Acting out stories makes books and stories become real to children. Their comprehension of the stories increases. The students become better at writing about the stories and better at using the language the stories are told in.

Read or tell the story of Fox's Warm Blanket to the students, and have them act out the roles of the viscachas (mice) and the Fox. Another idea is to make pretend mice. Take a handkerchief and stuff it into a closed hand. Pull enough of the handkerchief out of the hand between the thumb and forefinger to look like a mouse's head. Pinch the handkerchief to make two mouse ears. Then hold out the little finger to resemble the tail.



Paper Bag Puppets - Sock Puppets – Have the students make paper bag puppets or sock puppets that could be used to retell this story or another favorite tale. Tell the current story first. Then review and retell a different story that was learned earlier.



Note for Teachers: Some students who are reluctant to speak in front of a group may surprise you when they are “speaking through a puppet.” Shy students often speak up when pretending to be the voice of a puppet instead of talking in the regular voice. Using puppets allows the students to practice using dialogs from the stories and to make up stories of their own. Drama and puppetry can enhance vocabulary, listening skills, comprehension and help students become more fluent readers.

Puppets have multiple uses. A monkey puppet could be used in a story like The Monkey and the Crocodile. It could also be used when singing “**The Zoo Song**” in class. It could also be used to practice the rhyme that goes with the finger play **Five Little Monkey's Jumping on a Bed**. Using puppets, poetry, music, movement, etc. can help students learn more easily and more quickly. In addition, students remember what they learn for longer periods of time.

Hint: When using puppets, it is often a good idea to make the story with the puppets the last story told. This keeps the students from interrupting every story with the puppets.