

Reading is Magic!

Goal: Illustrate that reading books can be magical! Introduce students to magic tricks and fiction/non-fiction selections about magicians and magic.

BookSpring will provide:

- Read Aloud Selections
- Magicians cloak, gloves, hat, wand
- Magic Box
- Tablecloth
- Magic Tricks



Description of Activity:

1. As children enter the library, greet them by asking them to join you in the magician's corner.
2. Inform the children that you will be talking about two kinds of magic today. The first kind of magic is a form of entertainment that people can do with everyday objects like cards, rope, or money. As the skillful magician that you are, introduce at least one of your amazing tricks and perform it before the entire class. Use the magic tricks included in the kit.
3. Let the students know that instructions for magic tricks and illusions can be found in non-fiction books in the library. Show them the section to look in to find these books.
4. After amazing your class, introduce the second type of magic; magic that is found in stories. Magic in books allow characters to do things and go places normal humans cannot. A few examples are Cinderella (fairy godmother transforms objects with wand), Jack and the Beanstalk (the magic beans grow extraordinarily big and allow Jack to climb up to another world), Harry Potter (also uses a wand and spells to transform objects and perform magic.)
5. Read the BookSpring selection and ask the students when were key moments of magic in the book.
For older students, ask if they think magic will help with the problem the character is facing.

Tech Connection:

Go to Youtube and look up **3 Easy to do Magic Tricks for Beginners** by Paul Weatherbee. Using only a penny, a nickel and 1 playing card, he will teach the students 3 simple illusions

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills: K(21 A&B); 1st (27A&B); 2nd (28A&B); 3rd (110.14 29A); 4th (110.6 b1A,C &b3A); 5th (110.7 b1A &b3A &b8A,B,C)

Common Core: ELA-Literacy. RL.K 10, SI.K.1a-K.2, 1.1a-c, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1a-c, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1a-d, 4.3, 4.4, 4.1d, 4.6, RF 4.4a-cSI 4.2, SI 5.3, 5.6, RI5.2, 5.8, 5.10

Suggested Read-Aloud Books

Grade Level:
Pre-Kinder through Second Grade

Suggested Read-Aloud:
Jack and the Beanstalk/Juan y Los Frijoles Magicos
Retold by: Carol Ottolenghi
OR *The Magic Fish* by Freya Littledale

Discussion Points:

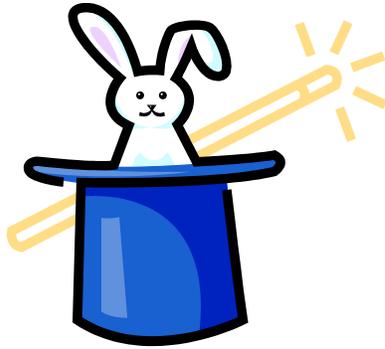
1. **Before reading the story** ask the students what they know about the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. Ask them to name three objects in the story that are magical.
2. **During the story:** Talk about what each magic object can do that is not ordinary.
 - A. Beans = grow a giant beanstalk
 - B. Hen = Lay a golden egg
 - C. Harp = Sing and perform
3. What lessons can be learned from this story (if any?) Do the students agree that it was okay for Jack to steal the items from the giants? Why or Why not?
4. If you chose *The Magic Fish*, talk about wishes and why they are considered magic. What happens when the wife gets too greedy? Compare to other stories where wishes are granted.

Grade Level:
Third through Fifth Grade

Suggested Read-Aloud:
The Spector From the Magician's Museum by Brad Strickland (Pages 16-23)

Discussion Points:

1. **Before reading:** Tell the students that Lewis and Rose are middle school students who are going to be in a talent show. They are asking thier Uncle's friend, Mr. Barnevelt (a magician) for help with thier act. They arrive at his magic museum and...
2. Share the description of the Magic Museum (from p.16) with the students. Read it aloud. Ask them to predict, based on the description, what they might see in this museum. Pay special attention to the great vocabulary: memorabilia, prestidigitation, sleight of hand, grandeur.
3. Read pages 17 and 18. How did Mr. Barnevelt startle Lewis and Rose? Did he mean to do it? How are they feeling about this museum so far?
4. Continue reading through the first paragraph on p.19. Did you expect Mr. Barnevelt to lead the kids to a room full of books? Why or why not?
5. Read through "What is it" on p.22—Ask: Do you think Rose should open the scroll from beyond the dead? Could it possibly be real?
6. Finish the chapter aloud. **Drawing Conclusions:** Ask: What do you think happened to Rose? Can you predict where the story might take the kids?



Coloring Book of Magic Instructions

- 1) Place your thumb at the **bottom** of the pages, flip through the book and show that all the pages are **blank**.
- 2) Next, place your thumb at the **top** of the pages, flip through the book to show only **uncolored black and white pages**
- 3) With your thumb at the **center** of the pages flip the book to reveal **fully colored** illustrations.
- 4) Place your thumb at the **bottom** of the pages, flip through the book a final time and show the students that all the pages are BLANK again!



The Hyrum Hanky Trick

The Effect

A normal handkerchief is displayed, front and back. It is folded loosely on the table and the mid-section of the hanky begins to swell as if a ghost were growing inside it

Secret

On examination of the handkerchief, you will note that there is a L-shaped wire in the rolled hem in one of the corners. There is a hump bent in this wire.

Method and Presentation

1. Lay the hanky down with wire in the upper right hand corner with white tag facing you on bottom
2. Fold the top right hand corner to the center of the hanky
3. Fold the top left hand corner to the center of the hanky
4. Fold the bottom right hand corner until the bottom of the fold reaches the wire.
5. Repeat for left bottom corner of hanky
6. Lay both hands on either side of the hanky. (The wire should be beside your right thumb)

Press on the wire slowly with your thumb to magically make the hanky rise in the air.

Watch it!

To see this trick preformed visit magicgeek.com. Click on the "Easy" tab on the left hand side of the screen and click the third page. Click on the YouTube video to watch a demonstration.



Magic Ball and Vase Instructions

How it works:

The top portion of the vase includes a **hidden section** that can either be lifted at the same time with the **vase lid** or stay resting on the **vase bottom**. The **hidden section** contains a permanent **half-ball**, creating the illusion that the real ball is resting in the **vase bottom**.

Performance:

First, open the vase making sure to also lift the **hidden section** together with the **vase lid**; revealing the **real ball** resting in the vase bottom. Remove the **real ball** and place it in your pocket. Then place the **vase lid** with the **hidden section** back on the **vase bottom**. Announce you will magically make the ball reappear!

Now lift the lid off the vase holding the side of the **vase bottom** and **hidden section** with the thumb and forefinger of your right hand. Use your left hand to lift the **vase lid**, revealing the **half-ball** for a few seconds. Place the **vase lid** back on the **vase bottom**. Announce you will magically make the ball vanish from the vase and re-appear in your pocket.

Finish the trick by lifting the **vase lid** and **hidden section** together as one. Show the **vase bottom** is empty. Reach into your pocket, remove the **real ball** and hand it out for inspection.