

Lesson: Communication Arts Grades K- 2
Topic - Setting



Does the Setting Make the Difference?

Introduction

Students will identify the time and place in the story and analyze how the story might change if the setting were different.

Learning Outcomes

Ohio Standards

- Analyze the importance of setting.

National Standards

- Apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate text.

Getting Started

Materials

- Handout A
- Crayons or colored pencils

Technology –

Use the *Flying Colors* computer program to draw the setting for the story in each of the three different settings: urban, rural, and suburban.

Vocabulary

- Setting
- Time
- Place
- Rural

Lesson

Orientation Activity

- Ask students to describe the setting of the play. List responses on the board or overhead. Explain that there are two parts to the setting of every story: the time and the place. Sometimes the time and place aren't obviously told to the reader or theater-goer, but students can use clues from the story to help them figure out the time and the place. Discuss with the students why the setting of the story is often very important? Where did Peter Rabbit live? What did the setting tell them about Peter Rabbit?

Learning Activity

- Pass out Handout A. Using colored pencils or crayons have students draw a picture of the setting of the play “The Rockin’ Adventures of Peter Rabbit.” Make sure that they include rural and time clues that help others figure out the time and the place of the story (ex. the sun to show it’s during the day, or a tractor and crops to show it’s a farm). Have students share their pictures with the class pointing out the clues.

Handouts

Handout A

Handout B

Evaluation and Follow-up

Using *Flying Colors* (or some other available drawing program), students will next create a picture of the setting of “The Rockin’ Adventures of Peter Rabbit” if the play took place at a different time or at a different place, or both. For example, what if the story took place in the desert, at night, or in the winter? When pictures are finished, students can share their pictures with the class. The class, in response, should try to use the clues from the picture to guess the time and place of the “new” story. How might this new setting change the story?

Note: If computer programs are unavailable, student can hand draw new setting pictures.

Assessment Tools and Methods

- Handout A results
- *Flying Colors* poster
- Class discussion

Interdisciplinary Connections

Writing: Students can write a new story that goes with their setting picture, explaining how the story might have changed if the setting was different as shown in their picture.

Social Studies: Students can explore how historical events could have different results if the setting had been changed. Example: Would we still have our own country if the Revolutionary War had been fought entirely in England?

Handout A

Name _____

The setting is the time and place that a story takes place.

Draw a picture below that illustrates the time and place of “The Rockin’ Adventures of Peter Rabbit.” Be sure to include **clues** that show the time and the place.



The time of the story is...

My clues to show the time are...

The place of the story is...

My clues to show the place are....
