

THE PAPER BAG PRINCESS

by Robert Munsch

Roles are reversed when a dragon kidnaps the prince and the princess must rescue him. Full color, humorous pictures beautifully illustrate Elizabeth's journey as she outsmarts the dragon and finds her prince.

READ!

Before you read:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Elizabeth wears a paper bag in her journey. What would you wear if you had to find a dragon?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- *I wonder if that dragon is sick?*

While you read:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *The Paper Bag Princess*

- frolicked: act lively and carefree
- autumn: time of season after summer and before winter
- rascal: somebody who behaves mischievously
- sealing wax: a resinous substance that is soft when heated and used for sealing letters, documents, batteries, or jars
- billowed: fill with air and swell outward
- sail: a large piece of strong fabric, fixed by rigging to catch wind on a boat
- perched: a temporary resting place for a person or thing
- noble: belonging or relating to an aristocratic social or political class
- pirate: a robber who operates from a ship on the ocean

After you read:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Describe Elizabeth, the princess.
- Who was she going to marry?
- What happened to the castle and Prince Ronald?
- How did Princess Elizabeth react?
- What was the only thing that Princess Elizabeth could find to wear?
- Why was the dragon easy to follow?
- How many forests did the dragon burn up at each of the three different times?
- How fast could the dragon fly around the world? How many times did he do this?
- When the dragon got back, what happened?
- Was Prince Ronald happy to see Princess Elizabeth? Why or why not?

DO!

DRAGON MAZE

Print a copy of *The Dragon Maze* sheet. Help Princess Elizabeth find the dragon before he eats the prince. Watch out for the dragon's traps!

