

THE FAIRY TALES OF KATHARINE LEE BATES

Critical Analysis

- ❑ Analyze and interpret a fairy tale that comments on a social attitude. Compare the theme with a modern situation. Write an essay illustrating how the themes are similar.
 - ❑ Compare two versions of a fairy tale and analyze the differences between a contemporary versus a traditional fairy tale.
 - ❑ Explore similarities and differences in traditions and symbolism that exist in cultures around the world as expressed within fairy tales. Select a fairy tale and discuss how it would be written differently based on cultural implications.
 - ❑ Select a fairy tale and discuss the gender roles. Analyze the gender roles and discuss the implications.
 - ❑ Go to the library and select a contemporary non-fiction book that discusses the treatment of males and females, gender bias and stereotypical implications. Choose an issue raised by the book and relate it to a fairy tale by examining issues such as stereotyping and gender bias. (If you are working with older students you may want to provide students with titles such as: Mary Pipher's "Reviving Ophelia").
 - ❑ Critically analyze a fairy tale in terms of ethical issues. Discuss the issue, the moral or ethical dilemma and take a position for or against the action taken.
 - ❑ Select a recurring theme embedded in traditional fairy tales and discuss the presence of that particular theme in modern movies and television. Discuss the theme, the fairy tale, the movie or television show in terms of how art imitates life or vice versa.
 - ❑ Select a fairy tale and typecast the characters using clippings of models and celebrities. Discuss and defend your choices. Share with whole class and record similarities in appearance. Analyze any trends that emerge and discuss the influence or lack of influence of "Disney" on selection of appearance. Analyze for trends involving weight, hair color, ethnicity.
 - ❑ Analyze the rewards acquired by the hero or heroine. Describe the underlying philosophy and moral of the fairy tale. Relate it to your own views and write a critical analysis of related topics such as: intrinsic vs. external motivation, work ethic, good and bad luck, etc.
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