



The Musical Monkeys

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Courage, Problem-Solving

Book Brief: A young woman confronts the spirits who are troubling her village – and gets a surprise!

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Fabiana Faiallo

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, “What does it mean to be brave? Have you ever had to be brave to solve a problem?” (Optional: Think-Pair-Share)

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying Vocabulary Guide.

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, think about the central message or lesson of this story. What does the young woman learn about the spirits?”



Think Aloud: “The young woman was brave enough to confront what everyone feared. When she did, she discovered the spirits weren’t what the village expected. The central message seems to be that courage can help us see things differently, and sometimes what seems scary or troublesome isn’t what we think it is..”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What problem is the village having?
- Why does the young woman decide to confront the spirits?
- What does the young woman discover about the spirits?
- How does the young woman solve the problem?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: “What is the central message or lesson of this story? What did the young woman learn when she confronted the spirits?”

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, “Have you ever been afraid of something but then discovered it wasn’t as scary as you thought? What happened?” Encourage students to write about a time they were brave and faced something that worried them or imagine a situation where they would need to be courageous. Students can share their stories and discuss what helped them be brave or what they learned from the experience.

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- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.