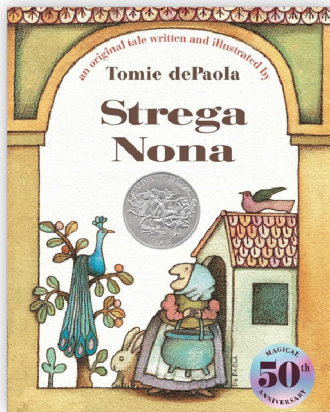




Strega Nona

Author: *Tomie dePaola*

Illustrator: *Tomie dePaola*

Themes: Community, Consequences, Curiosity, Following Directions

Book Brief: Strega Nona owns a magic pasta pot. When her helper Big Anthony uses it without permission, the pasta overflows and floods the town until she returns to stop it.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Tell your child that Strega Nona means "Grandma Witch" in Italian. She uses gentle magic to help her town.
- Ask your child if they have ever been told not to touch something. Talk about why grown-ups give warnings.

While Reading: Make Connections

- When Strega Nona sings to her pot, ask, "What do you think will happen?"
- When Big Anthony makes the pasta himself, ask, "What did Big Anthony forget to do? What do you think might happen next?"
- When the pasta floods the town, ask, "How do you think the people felt when their town was flooded with pasta?"

After Reading: Ask Questions

- Ask your child why Big Anthony had to eat all the pasta. Ask, "Do you think it was fair to make Big Anthony eat all the pasta?"

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book:

- Make a simple pasta dinner together. Let your child help measure and stir, then talk about following each step in order.
- Read more books together by Tomie dePaola.
 - Tony's Bread (1996)
 - Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato (1997)