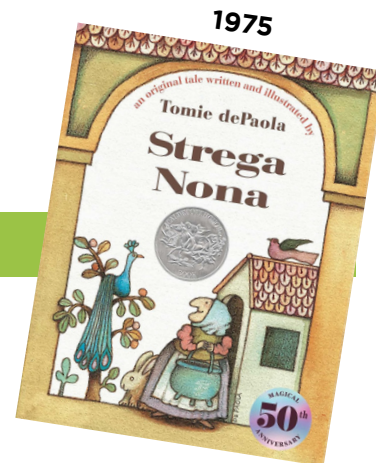


Strega Nona



READ ALOUD

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.

Author(s):

Tomie dePaola

Illustrator(s):

Tomie dePaola

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about Strega Nona and what the pot might be for.

Prior Knowledge: Ask students, “Have you ever done something that an adult warned you not to do? What happened?”

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [vocabulary guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read today, let’s listen to find out what Big Anthony learns from Strega Nona.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What warning does Strega Nona give Big Anthony? Why do you think she gives it?
- What does Big Anthony forget to do when he uses the pot? What clues in the pictures show the pasta getting out of control?
- Why does Big Anthony use the pot even though he was told not to?
- How does the ending fix the problem?



Think Aloud: “I notice Big Anthony wants to look important in front of the town. I’m asking myself, is he thinking about the rule, or about showing off? That helps me understand why he ignores the warning.”

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: Big Anthony did not listen to the warning from Strega Nona. What lesson does this story teach about listening and following directions?

Extending Our Thinking: Have students use [RIF’s Concept Map](#) before, during, and after reading to deepen students’ understanding of a concept, make connections, and build comprehension.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more titles by Tomie dePaola:
 - [Tony’s Bread](#) (1996)
 - [Jamie O’Rourke and the Big Potato](#) (1997)