

THE ROLE OF FAIRY TALES IN LEARNING ENGLISH

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Annotation. In this article, the authors highlighted the fairy tales as a medium in fostering language skills development. Fairy tales is used because it is considered suitable for all ages, besides, it also provides rich sources of language development, furthermore it has authentic model of language use. This study aims at proposing the use of fairy tales in developing language skills listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Key words: highlighted, medium, supplementary, valuable, comprehension, fruitful, engaging, explore.

“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales”.

“If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales”.

Albert Einstein

Literature plays an important role in our life. Fairy tales as a part of the children's literature could be a valuable source for teaching English as a foreign language. Fairy tales might be considered one of the possible supplementary teaching materials for English language learners. It is not only the atmosphere of mystery, thrill and wonder which makes fairy tales so unique and valuable but they can bring the whole magic world to a young reader and learner. They can open the old wisdom and knowledge of humankind, which we often forget about. Literature provides wonderful source material for eliciting strong emotional responses from students and using it in classroom is a fruitful way of involving the learner as a whole person.

Teaching and learning primary languages can be easy and fun with Learning Languages through Fairy Tales. Children love reading and watching fairy tales. Actually, I guess that even us adults love them, so why not add some magic, romantic, and exciting elements to learning English, or any other language, through fairy tales. Language practice does not necessarily have to be done only through grammar and vocabulary exercises. There is much more than that to be explored, and with fairy tales there is no age limit. You can start whenever you want.

Most children are familiar with some fairy tales, as they have been translated into many languages, so reading or watching familiar tales in English will not be as difficult to understand, as it may seem. It is important, of course, to choose one the children have already been exposed to in their mother language. This will provide them with a safe environment and context, and they will not get frustrated by not understanding a word or phrase. One good example of a well-known story for children is Cinderella.

When a child starts learning English it is essential that this is done in an engaging and motivating way. Most children like reading, watching, or listening to stories, as that is a way to explore their imagination and the world around them. Fairy tales provide children with all the necessary elements to get and keep them enthusiastic about a story. They learn more and more words, as they get interested in the story.

Fairy tales, like many other books, can be read at different levels. There is something called graded readers, which are books designed for language learners. There are many levels to choose from starters to advanced, the story using selected vocabulary to make reading easy and enjoyable. When it comes to movies, well, that is a different story. Most movies are not made for language learners but having read the story before definitely helps with understanding a movie.

With the help of fairy tales, it is possible to develop reading skills; the teacher can set assignment, which includes pre-reading activities connected with the particular fairy tale, while-reading activities and comprehension tasks. In addition, fairy tales help to develop speaking skills since fairy tales are good providers for discussion topics and values, which could be discussed in the class.

Fairy tales may contribute to the enrichment of a young reader's knowledge in a number of ways.

They teach moral and values highlighting the universal norms and standards of language existence. In addition to that, fairy tales are a particular type of text, which can be adapted to suit the child's age, whereas their composition of sentences and plot is simple and understandable.

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