

NEW MILLENNIUM KIDS PUBLISHING

These Pages are Chapters from Creative and Crafty Writing, Getting Kids to Write the Fun and Easy Way for God's Glory



Creative and Crafty Writing by Karine Bauch and Jan May

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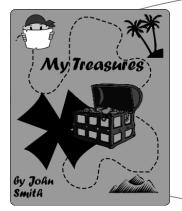
www.teachartathome.com

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1. Writing a Fable (Part 1)



Today's Class

We will learn about fables and parables and start working on our own symbolic stories. Then, we will create a "Treasure Journal" for our craft



(Sample Treasure Journal Cover)

Supplies (one per student):

- Inexpensive composition notebooks (hardcover)
- Large paper grocery bag
- White glue (Elmer's)
- Colored Markers, assorted
- Pencil with eraser
- Student Workbook
- Glue Stick
- Scissors

What's a Treasure Journal?

It's a personal book in which each student can do journaling homework assignments or keep personal entries.

Teacher Prep:

1. **Cut apart grocery bags** so that they are large sheets of paper.

2. Cut them to the right size to cover the composition notebooks, leaving a 3 inch edge.

3. Optional: **To make the paper look like leather**, soak the paper for a minute in water. Crush it into a ball and carefully open it up. Dry by ironing it with a warm iron. Be sure to put a thin towel between the paper and your iron or it will ruin your iron!

Optional Journaling Homework:

Write about a time in your life that was an adventure. It can be as simple as a romp in the woods or as elaborate as a trip overseas. Be as descriptive as possible!

(See the end of this book for all assignments on one page.)

Learning Time:

Fables are one of the oldest forms of storytelling, dating back to ancient times. They are short stories, sometimes with animal, human or even vegetable characters, that illustrate a moral or wise saying. Jesus also used symbolic stories called "parables" in His teaching that helped to explain spiritual messages.

Here is an example from the ancient Greek writer, Aesop: The Donkey in the Lion's Skin

A Donkey, having put on the Lion's skin, roamed about in the forest and amused himself by frightening all the foolish animals he met in his wanderings. At last coming upon a Fox, he tried to frighten him also, but the Fox no sooner heard the sound of his voice than he exclaimed, "I might possibly have been frightened myself, if I had not heard your bray."

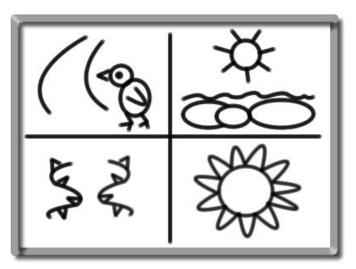
Moral: Clothes may disguise a fool, but his words will give him away.

When Jesus wanted to teach his disciples about spreading the gospel, he used the *Parable of the Sower* to paint the picture:



Draw the illustrations below on your whiteboard as you read the Parable of the Sower. Don't worry if you can't draw well – it will inspire the non-artistic students to give it their best shot when it's their turn to draw during craft time for Lesson 2.

"Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seeds. As he scattered them across his field, some



seeds fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate them. Other seeds fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seeds sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. But the plants soon wilted under the hot sun, and since they didn't have deep roots, they died.

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Other seeds fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants. Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted! Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand."

Matthew 13:3-23 (NLT) Holy Bible. New Living Translation © 1996, 2004

Jesus used this story to show that the seed (the gospel) stays the same, but the different types of soil (the hearts of people) receive it differently.

Writing Time:

Guide the student through filling in the following worksheet in their workbooks:

WRITING A FABLE WORKSHEET

Fill in the following worksheet to begin your fable.

1. Choose a Moral:

- a. "If At First You Don't Succeed, Try, Try Again"
- b. "Haste Makes Waste"
- c. "If You Don't Work, You Don't Eat"
- d. Make Up Your Own :
- 2. Choose an animal that will learn this:
- 3. Why did he need to learn this? Was he lazy, grumpy, impatient, greedy, or selfish?

4. What does your animal look like?

- a. Size: _____
- b. Color: _
- c. Texture (Furry, soft, smooth): _____
- d. Can you use any similes?
 - i. "He was as tall as a tree."
 - ii. "She was as round as a ball."
 - iii. _____
- 5. Who are the other animals that will help him learn the lesson? Choose only a few. Describe them briefly:
- 6. Choose a setting: forest, mountains, cave, tree, town, etc.
 - a. What is it like there? Make a list of all the things that you would experience there: Remember to include colors!

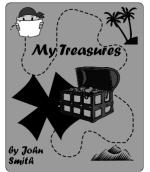


Hear	Taste	Smell	Touch
	Hear	Hear Taste	Hear Taste Smell Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state Image: Second state<

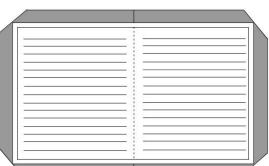
7. How will the animal learn this lesson? Create an obstacle:



- 1. Give each student the following:
 - a. 1 composition notebook
 - b. 1 sheet of grocery bag paper (See "Teacher Prep" at start of lesson.)
 - c. 1 pair of scissors
 - d. White glue
- 2. Open the notebook and lay it on the paper, centering it. (Be sure that the printed side of the paper is facing up.)
- 3. Cut a slit from the bottom of the paper to the
- spine of the book.4. Cut a slit from the top of the paper to the spine of
- 4. Cut a slit from the top of the paper to the spine of the book.



- 5. Cut off the corners of the paper, as shown to the right.
- 6. Fold the edges of the paper in to cover the back and front covers.



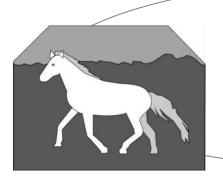
cut

cut

- 7. Remove the book and cover the paper entirely with white glue.
- 8. Lay the book back onto the paper and fold the edges in to cover the inside covers.
- 9. Smooth the paper all over with your hands with the book closed.
- 10. Give out student workbooks and turn to the clipart section for this lesson.
- 11. Have students color in the clip art of the treasure chest in their workbooks, cut it out and glue it to the center of the front cover with a glue stick (not white glue).
- 12. Encourage the students to decorate the book cover like a treasure map, using either the clipart page or their own imaginations. Add their names, too.

2. Writing a Fable (Part 2)

"Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand. -Matt 13:23



Today's Class

We will learn the importance of wisdom by looking at God's word on the subject. Then we will write our fables out and create a "pop-up" book to display them.

Supplies (one per student):

- Sheet of white paper, 8.5" x 11" (or 9" x 12")
- Pencil with eraser
- Scissors
- Glue Stick
- Student Workbook, with Lesson One completed

Treasure Journal Time:

Most children will want you to read their journal entries, but some will not. You can set apart the first 5 minutes of class time for reading a few journal entries aloud to everyone.

Teacher Prep:

1. **Cut** the top two corners of each piece of white paper, so it looks like the shape of the picture of the horse (top left).

2. Fold up the bottom of each sheet 1

Optional Journaling Homework:

Write a list of 12 descriptive words or phrases for each of the following places:

- * the beach
- * your bedroom
- * outer space

Learning Time:



Why are fables, parables and symbolic stories so good to read? (Ask for responses.) They teach us how to live wisely without being very preachy about it.

What is wisdom?

Wisdom is the ability to make good decisions – ones that will help and not harm. It's looking at a situation as God does!

Let's see what the Book of Psalms says about wisdom:

Psalm 104:24

O Lord, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures.

<u>Psalm 111:10</u>

Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true wisdom. All who obey his commandments will grow in wisdom.

Spend a moment in prayer asking God to lead all of you in making wise decisions.

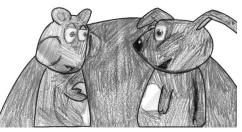
Writing Time:

- 1. Have each student read aloud his answers from his workbook from Lesson One. Let everyone help in creating a title for his parable by making suggestions to him.
- 2. Have each student spend 15-20 minutes writing out their fable in their workbooks, in the Lesson Two section. Suggest a first line to struggling students.
- 3. Remind the students that these are to be SHORT stories that get right to the point.

Craft Time:

1. Give each student the following:

- a. A sheet of white paper, prepped by teacher (see "Teacher Prep" at the beginning of the lesson.)
- b. A pencil with eraser
- 2. Ask the student to illustrate one scene from the story,



preferably the climax. They can use the clipart in their workbooks, Lesson 2, if the animal they chose is included. The clipart can be cut out, pasted or just copied by hand. Be sure to include background elements and to fill the page. Be sure they don't draw on the 1" folded area at the bottom *Note: These pictures will be colored during the next class, unless there is time in this class session to do so.*

3. Writing a Fable (Part 3)

"To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are His." Job 12:13



Today's Class

We will complete our fable "pop-up" books by coloring in our illustrations, writing out our fables, and creating a cover.



Supplies (one per student):

Teacher Prep:

- Colored construction paper, 12" x 18"
- Completed illustrations (drawn only)
- Pencil with eraser
- Scissors
- Glue Stick
- Colored Pencil set or Marker set
- Student Workbook, with Lesson Two completed

Treasure Journal Time:

Don't forget to allow the students to read their journal homework aloud for a few minutes at the beginning of class. 1. Have the book, *Fables*, by Arnold Lobel, available to read aloud at the end of class is there is time left over after the project. If this is unavailable, the children can read their fables to the class at the end.

Optional Journaling Homework:

Write a list of 5 words or phrases that describe *how you feel* when you are in each of the following places: *your backyard, the dentist's office, and the arms of a loving relative.*

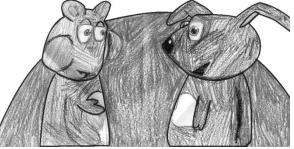
Learning Time:



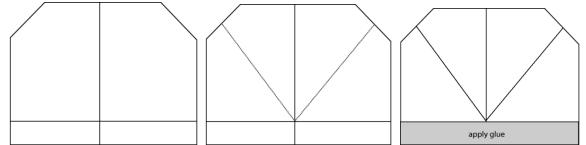
In order to allow enough time for completing the craft, **there is no formal lesson** time for this session. If time allows at the end of the class, you may either have the students read their fables to everyone or you can read selections from *Fables*, by Arnold Lobel.

Writing and Craft Time:

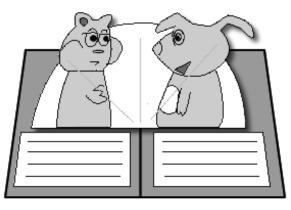
- 1. Give out the illustrations to the students, along with markers and/or colored pencils.
- 2. Have the students work on coloring the illustrations while you edit each student's fables in their workbooks. Be sure to help them by cutting out unnecessary information. Fables should be short.
- 3. When illustrations are colored and fables are edited, students should move onto writing their final, neat draft of their fable in their workbooks (Lesson Three). They can then cut them out as marked.
- 4. *Optional:* Direct students to creatively cut the top of their illustrations to create a silhouette. They may wish to draw a circle behind the characters like in the drawing above.



5. In order to make the illustrations pop up, fold them in the following manner: Fold the paper *forward* at the vertical line. Now fold it *back* along the "V" lines and the horizontal line at the bottom._____



- 6. Fold the construction paper over, like a book (short end to short end).
- 7. Open it up and paste the bottom flap of the illustration horizontally across the center of the open "book".
- 8. Close the book and make sure the illustration folds inside correctly.
- 9. Open it up again and glue the fable inside, below the illustration, putting the two sections side by side.
- 10. Students can write the title and author on the front cover.





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Hello Student!

You are about to start a creative journey as your learn to write for God's glory! You will create a "Treasure Journal" during the first class and use it for doing optional homework assignments. They are listed below in order:

Lesson One: Write about a time in

your life that was an adventure. It can be as simple as a romp in the woods or as elaborate as a trip overseas. Be as descriptive as possible!

Lesson Two: Write a list of 12

descriptive words or phrases for each of the following places: the beach, your bedroom and outer space.

Lesson Three: Write a list of 5

words or phrases that describe how you feel when you are in each of the following places: your backyard, the dentist's office, and the arms of a loving relative.

Lesson Four: Write about an event

in your life that was a shock or a surprise to you. It could be something happy, like a surprise party, or a sad event, like the loss of a grandparent.

Lesson Five: Write two lists of

descriptive words that tell about both the current season and the upcoming one.

Lesson Six: Think of a favorite adult

in your life and write out three lists of words or phrases that describe his or her: LIKES, DISLIKES, and ACTIVITIES.

Lesson Seven: Interview an adult

about one of the following events in his or her life: his first day of school, the day she met her spouse, or his most embarrassing moment. Write it out as a story.

Lesson Eight: Write a made up

story about yourself in your journal that starts like this: "If everything goes right today, then..." Don't be afraid to describe your biggest dreams for the day!

Lesson Nine: Write out a made up

conversation between you and a famous person from either the present or past. Try NOT to make it an interview, but rather a discussion of a topic that is well known to the person.

Lesson Ten: Write a true or fictional

story about yourself that starts with the following sentence: "The sun rose this morning, just like every other morning, but I had no idea that this day would change my life..."

Lesson Eleven: Create titles for

the last three days of your life. Examples: "The Day We Filled the Fridge", or "Math Madness".

Lesson One

WRITING A FABLE WORKSHEET

Fill in the following worksheet to begin your fable.

- 1. Choose a Moral:
 - a. "If At First You Don't Succeed, Try, Try Again"
 - b. "Haste Makes Waste"
 - c. "If You Don't Work, You Don't Eat"
 - d. Make Up Your Own :
- 2. Choose an animal that will learn this:
- 3. Why did he need to learn this? Was he lazy, grumpy, impatient, greedy, or selfish?
- 4. What does your animal look like? a. Size:
 - b. Color:
 - c. Texture (Furry, soft, smooth):
 - d. Can you use any similes?
 - i. "He was as tall as a tree."
 - ii. "She was as round as a ball."
 - iii. _



Outside show is a poor substitute for inner worth. -Aesop

5. Who are the other animals that will help him learn the lesson? Choose only a few. Describe them briefly:

6. Choose a setting: forest, mountains, cave, tree, town, etc.



a. What is it like there? Make a list of all the things that you would experience there: Remember to include colors!

See	Hear	Taste	Smell	Touch

7. How will the animal learn this lesson? Create an obstacle:



TREASURE JOURNAL CLIPART

Cut out or copy these treasure map pictures for your treasure journal. Add some of your own, too!



Lesson Two

"Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand." .Matt 13:23

Use the space below to write out your fable.

Title:

FABLE CLIPART PAGE

Either cut out or copy these pictures for your fable pop-up book

