Examining and Comparing Fairy Tales throughout the Ages

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With this unit, students will compare different versions of Fairy Tales. Focusing on the ELA. RL.6.9: Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres, we begin the unit with Hans Christian Andersen’s The Little Mermaid in order to understand the key features that make a fairy tale. Using the original tale, we will compare it to modern, animated interpretations and evaluate the appeal it has with the audience. Next, students will collaborate with one another to compare other fairy tales to their modern counterparts to write a literary analysis. We will do this using the strategy of “flipped classrooms” where students will watch the modernized version of the tale on their Google Chrome books at home and be prepared to discuss with their group in class. Finally, we will transition from just looking at one author’s modifications to looking at how different cultures from around the world modify the story. Using the fairy tale Cinderella, students will compare other cultures’ interpretation of the tale to see if there are differences in the plot, theme, and points of view and yet see how that culture is infused into the story.