

Table of Contents

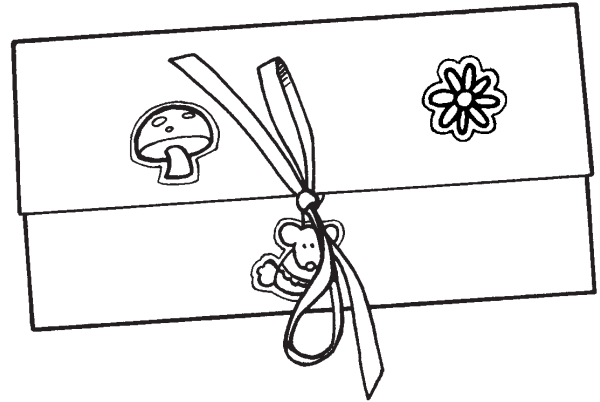
Introduction	3
Sample Lesson Plan	4
Before the Book (<i>Pre-reading Activities</i>)	5
About the Author	6
Book Summary	7
Vocabulary Lists	8
Vocabulary Activities	9
Section 1: “Gift of the Magi”	10
• Quick Quiz	
• Hands-On Project— <i>Cards of Gratitude</i>	
• Cooperative Learning Activity— <i>On the Other Hand</i>	
• Curriculum Connection—Research /Technology: <i>A Day in the Life of O. Henry</i>	
• Into Your Life— <i>Journal-a-Day</i>	
Section 2: “The Pimienta Pancakes”	15
• Quick Quiz	
• Hands-On Project— <i>Pimienta Pancake Recipe</i>	
• Cooperative Learning Activity— <i>Metaphoric Meanings</i>	
• Curriculum Connection—Science: <i>Chemistry in the Kitchen</i>	
• Into Your Life— <i>To Tell the Truth</i>	
Section 3: “The Ransom of Red Chief”	20
• Quick Quiz	
• Hands-On Project— <i>Mapping the Story</i>	
• Cooperative Learning Activity— <i>Remembering Red Chief</i>	
• Curriculum Connection—Social Studies: <i>Evidence of an Era</i>	
• Into Your Life— <i>Pen Names</i>	
Section 4: “Retrieved Reformation”	25
• Quick Quiz	
• Hands-On Project— <i>Dazzling Dioramas!</i>	
• Cooperative Learning Activity— <i>Opinionated, at Best</i>	
• Curriculum Connection—Math: <i>Short Story Problems</i>	
• Into Your Life— <i>You and the Elements</i>	
Section 5: “Roads of Destiny”	30
• Quick Quiz	
• Hands-On Project— <i>Heads Up!</i>	
• Cooperative Learning Activity— <i>A Road Less Traveled</i>	
• Curriculum Connection—Writing: <i>Writing a Short Story</i>	
• Into Your Life— <i>Career Choices</i>	
After the Book (<i>Post-reading Activities</i>)	35
• A Page in History	
• Book Report Ideas	
• Reader’s Theater	
Culminating Activities	38
Unit Test Options	42
Bibliography of Related Reading	45
Answer Key	46

Cards of Gratitude

Take the time to express gratitude to someone who sacrificed something to give a gift to you. He or she may have sacrificed time, an object, or an opportunity on your behalf. Make one of these folder cards to share your feelings. You can decorate it with pictures or drawings you have made, stickers, or cut out pictures from old magazines or cards.

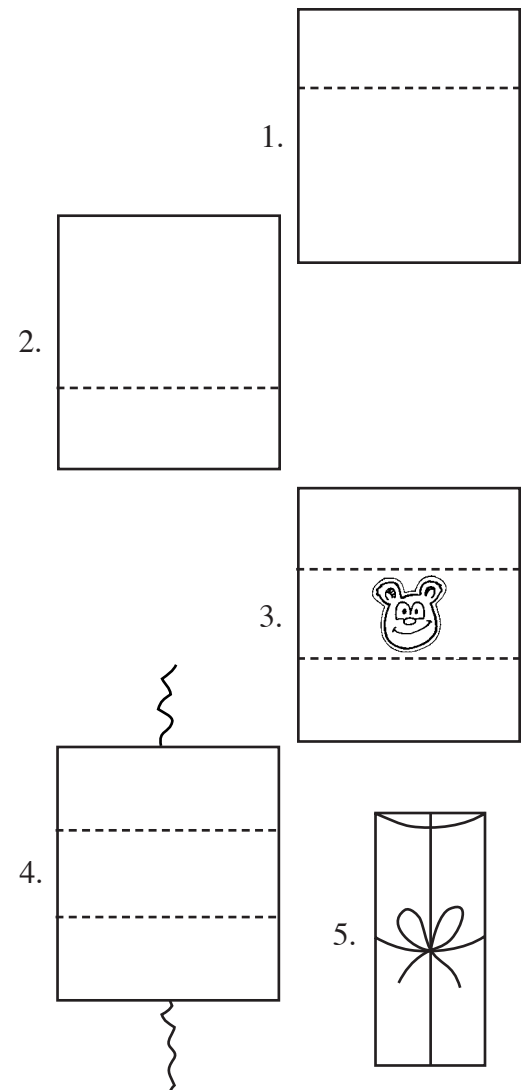
Materials

- plain or colored construction paper
- scissors
- pencil
- tape
- ribbon
- markers, colored pencils, stickers, etc.



Directions

1. Place the construction paper with the short side at the top. Make a fold towards the center of the construction paper, approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ from the top.
2. Next, make a fold towards the center of the paper, approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ from the bottom. The two folds will now overlap at the middle.
3. Using markers, colored pencils, stickers, pictures from magazines, etc., decorate your card. Be sure to include your note of gratitude to someone special.
4. Cut a piece of ribbon, about 6 inches (15 cm) long. With a sticker or a piece of tape, attach the piece of ribbon at the center of the top flap on the inside of the card.
5. Attach another 6-inch (15 cm) piece of ribbon to the center of the bottom flap on the outside of the card. Tie both ribbons in a bow to secure the card.



Hint: You can make cards of any size. All you need is a piece of paper about twice as long as it is wide.

A Road Less Traveled

Select one of the three paths on which the poet traveled in "Roads of Destiny." You will create a production of this part of the story. You and your group will record your production with a video camera. On a selected date, the class will watch all of the videos at the same time.

Keep your story true to what happened in "Roads of Destiny," but alter it so that David does not die. Do not alter or change any other portion of the story.

Divide into small groups. Do not share your new ending with other groups in your class. Each group will need someone to play the roles below. Select the role in which you would like to participate. There may be more than one person doing each job.

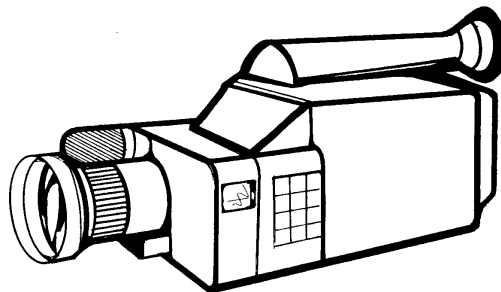
Production Roles

Screenwriter

This person is in charge of taking the book form of the scene and turning it into a script for a play with speaking parts and scenery. The script will need to be typed, edited, and one copy given to each person involved in the production.

Camera Operator

The camera operator is to tape the production. He/she works closely with the director to record the story correctly. The tape may need to be edited.



Director

The role of the director is to organize the actors/actresses and the other individuals who are part of the production. He/she is the one in charge of saying when the performing begins and ends. He/she decides when to redo certain parts of the production so that it is polished and ready for an audience to see.

Actors and Actresses

These are the people playing the roles of the characters in the production. They are responsible for getting to know the characters from the book very well. They need to be sure to dress accordingly. How would this character sound? Actors practice their parts so they are memorized and they can sound like the characters.

Props/Scenery

The person responsible for the props and scenery will need to be busy working on this while the performers practice their lines. Scenery does not need to be elaborate, but a simple prop can really add to the quality of the performance.