

Learning possibilities

Text: Munsch, R 2006, *The paper bag princess*, Scholastic Australia, Lindfield, NSW.

Engage

- Step 1. If you have this book at home, encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover. If not use the suggested video link in the Resources box and watch the story together.
- Step 2. Encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover, drawing their attention to the details, for example: smoke, dragon, castle door, princess.
- Step 3. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.
1. What are the names of the prince and princess in this story? (Ronald and Elizabeth)
 2. Show me the creature that breathes fire. (point to dragon)
 3. How does the princess trick the dragon first? (by asking the dragon to burn ten forests and then 50 more so it runs out of fire) What was the next trick? (she asked the dragon if it could fly all around the world and do it again which made the dragon too tired to fly)
 4. Why did the princess want the dragon to fall asleep? (so that she could rescue Prince Ronald)

Resources

Video

The paper bag princess told by Robert Munsch
(YouTube, R VP)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiPrb-sA6Uo>

Respond

The story offers opportunities to talk about the importance of treating people with respect, care and consideration. Invite your child/children to share their ideas about how Prince Ronald treated Princess Elizabeth who made every effort to rescue him, yet was treated badly by Ronald for not looking like a princess. Ask your child/children how they would feel if they were treated this way or have them think of another way Prince Ronald could have spoken to Princess Elizabeth

Extend

- Create a dragon's obstacle course focusing on positional and directional language, for example: fly *over* the mountain (laundry basket turned upside down), *through* a burning ring of fire (coloured crepe paper hanging from a hoop) *between* the mountains (cardboard boxes), *through* the forest, *inside* the cave (tunnel or open cardboard box).
- Build a dragon's lair in the sandpit with a castle and moat.
- Create dragon's fire mixing yellow and red fingerpaint and use on a child's play table, plastic tablecloth or plastic tray outside.
- Build a castle with large cardboard boxes and fabric.