



If I Had a Million Onions/Peek-a-Little Boo

by Sheree Fitch



Book Rapport

Book Rapport is an educational programme at WordFest designed to bring authors and students together in interactive presentations and writing workshops.

Author Profile

Sheree Fitch (Can) is a global ambassador for children's literature, touring and performing all over the world. She is the award-winning and bestselling author of numerous books for children, and her first book of nonsense poetry, *Toes in my Nose*, remains a bestseller. She has penned many other works, including several plays, a novel, and a book of adult poems, and has won the Vicky Metcalf Award for a body of work in 2000. This poet, storyteller and educator returns to WordFest with her first young adult novel *The Gravesavers* - a ghostly mystery set in the tiny town of Boulder Basin, Nova Scotia, as well as a brand-new collection of enchanting children's poems.

Topics

Poetry Fun
Imagination

Curriculum Connections English Language Arts

General Outcome 1

Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences.

General Outcome 2

Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to manage ideas and information.

General Outcome 3

Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to enhance the clarity and artistry of communication.

Summary

If I Had a Million Onions and *Peek-a-Little-Boo* are both enchanting books of poetry by Sheree Fitch. *If I Had a Million Onions* is a collection of nonsense and whimsical poetry for children in grades 1-3. *Peek-a-Little-Boo* is the perfect book for students to read to their younger friends or siblings in kindergarten.

Information and Communication Technology

C.1 Student will access, use and communicate information from a variety of technologies

1.1 access and retrieve appropriate information from electronic sources for a specific inquiry

1.2 process information from more than one source to retell what has been discovered

2005 Lesson Plan Division I

Create

1. Find as many rhyming words as you can for the following words:

Jumble _____
Rock _____
Yellow _____
Ran _____
Swinging _____
Me _____
Tell _____
Cake _____

2. Another important part of writing poetry is using adjectives (an adjective is a word that describes a noun – like the “red barn” or the “fast dog” they tell us more about the noun) to describe the nouns (names or objects) in your poem. Find two or more adjectives for each word

Jake _____
Bear _____
Toy _____
Bike _____
Sock _____
Mom _____
Dad _____
Friend _____
Cloud _____
Ice cream _____
Pizza _____
Game _____

3. Set one of Sheree’s poems to music! Use your school’s instruments or create your own using materials like beans, rice, plastic containers, toilet paper rolls, tissue boxes, elastic bands, paper and egg cartons. Play all the instruments along with your favourite poem!

Create cont’d

1. Substitute some of your own words into the first two verses of If I Had a Million Onions (Sheree’s words are in brackets, find a new word to fill in the blanks!)

If I had a million _____ (onions)
I know what I would make
A million _____ (onions)
Mixed- with- chocolate
Apple honey _____ (cake).
I would take some to my _____ (teacher)
I would feed it to my _____ (Dad)
The best _____ (onion)
Mixed- with- chocolate
Apple honey _____ (cake)
They ever had!

Connect

1. Learn some of the nursery rhymes from this site. You’ll also be able to find songs, colouring pages and many activity sheets linked to some of the pages:
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/Rhymes.html>
2. Use the rhyme dictionary when you have trouble finding some yourself! <http://www.rhymezone.com/>
3. Learn some tradition nursery rhymes on
<http://www.rhymes.org.uk/>
4. Visit some poetry sites for (and sometime by) kids!
<http://www.rhymes.org.uk/>
<http://www.gigglepoetry.com/>
5. Use Book Rapport’s link page to find fun word games
<http://www.bookrapport.com/links.html>

Author suggested activities:

Peek-a-Little-Boo

1. Look up names in Baby book.
2. Write a story suggested to your imagination by the meaning or even sound of someone's name.
3. What song/game do you remember from when you were little?
4. Why do you think Sheree Fitch added "little" to peek a boo?
5. What message would you give to babies around the world?

If I had a Million Onions

1. Can you write a spoonerism for your name. Beggs and Acon is eggs and bacon?
2. Can you guess some of the words that the poet combined to invent new words?

Like galloping is galloping and trotting.

Slain is sleet and rain.

3. Invent your own words and see if you can make a poem or write a paragraph with them.
4. Write an unrhymed poem called Wishes and Prayers.

Discuss

1. Why do you think Sheree's poems are fun?
2. What do you think is the most important feature of a poem? How come some poems are so different from one another?

Extension

1. Complete the attached worksheet taken from Sheree Fitch's Writing Maniac.

Encounter

1. Read both *If I Had a Million Onions* and *Peek-a-Little-Boo* by Sheree Fitch.
2. Read some of her other wonderful books of poetry including *There Were Monkeys in My Kitchen*, *Toes in my Nose*, and *There's a Mouse in my House!*
3. Read *Drumheller Dinosaur Dance* by Robert Heidbreder.
4. What would one of Sheree's poems sound like if it were a song? Try singing some poems (perhaps with the instruments you made in Create #3).
5. Read *On Tumbledown Hill* By Tim Wynne-Jones

Book Your Class

If you and your students would like to attend a Book Rapport event, please call: Jodi Guttman, *Coordinator* or Jennifer Barry, *Assistant Coordinator* at 294-7492 or **e-mail** bookrapport@wordfest.com