Virtual Story Hour with theREP

Activity for Grades K-2

A Big Mooncake for Little Star by Grace Lin

LEARNING STANDARD QUESTION: Who is in this book? Who are the characters in this book? Why did the author write this?

Possible Responses → “Who’s in this book?” / “Who are the characters in this book?” – Little Star, Little Star’s Mama, The Big Mooncake, The Moon. “Why did the author write this?” – To show a child’s curiosity; as a folk tale for the phases of the moon; to show the moon and how it changes.

ACTIVITY: Draw and Write (or Tell)

*See below for Science Activity (video) about the Phases of the Moon for Kids – which could be watched before the continued classroom discussion – to help further it.

Classroom Discussion: The Phases of the Moon. Ask students to think about how the moon’s shape changes throughout the month. What are some of those shapes – or phases – called? Full Moon; Half Moon; Crescent Moon; etc.

Continued discussion: Teachers can continue the discussion by asking other questions like: Have you ever heard about the “phases of the moon” or the “moon cycle?” Have you ever heard the different shapes be called anything else? Like the crescent moon called a “Fingernail Moon”? Do you know why the moon’s shape changes in the night sky?

DRAW! Students are asked to draw their favorite shape of the moon.

WRITE (or Tell)! Students are asked to become the imaginative, creative, great story tellers they are, and to write (or tell) a short story on how the moon got the shape they drew.

MATERIALS NEEDED:
Info on the phases of the moon video (below); Paper, Pencils, Colored Pencils/Crayons

AT HOME LEARNERS:
Students learning at home are encouraged to watch the video, if they are able, and to do the activity as outlined above.

SHARE YOUR CREATION!
theREP would love teachers and or students to share photos of them watching story hour and or doing the activity. Photos (letters or drawings) can be emailed to Associate Artistic Director, Margaret E. Hall, at mhall@capitalrep.org
Science Activity -- Phases of the Moon Video For Kids:
https://www.generationgenius.com/videolessons/moon-phases-video-for-kids/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAgomBBhDXARlAsAFNyUqMBKOGUDkRmN2MQqvZWwO9J0shW60FVnJGlKmMjPZyYkaAvh'rEALw_wc

*Teachers can join to view this video/info about the Phases of the Moon - they will get 1 month free.

*There are also great discussion questions, vocabulary and lesson plans, DIY activity and teacher guides, at this link.

Image from the book – Little Star eating the mooncake which shows readers the phases of the moon.