

Study Guide prepared by
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Barter Dramaturge

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

By the Brothers Grimm
Adapted by Brandon Roberts
*Especially for Grades K-5

ON TOUR January – March, 2008

Call (276) 619-3347 for booking, upcoming tour info, or to request a brochure

Virginia SOLs

English – K1, K3, K8, K11, 1.1, 1.3, 1.11, 2.1, 2.3, 2.8, 3.1, 3.6, 4.4, 4.7, 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.8

Tennessee TCAPS

English – K1.01, K1.02, K1.07, K1.13, 1.1.01, 1.1.02, 1.1.07, 1.1.08, 1.1.13, 1.1.14,
2.1.01, 2.1.02, 2.1.07, 2.1.09, 2.1.13, 2.1.14, 3.1.01, 3.1.02, 3.1.07, 3.1.09, 3.1.13, 3.1.14,
4.1.01, 4.1.06, 4.1.12, 4.1.13, 5.1.01, 5.1.06, 5.1.12, 5.1.13
Theatre Arts – Level I, II, III

Setting

A Small, northern Appalachian village and the woods by which it lies. Summer, 1919.

Characters

The Wolf
Little Red
Huntsman
Grandmother Red
Father Red

Woods Life – consists of
Woods Wind
Woods Rain
Woods Sun
Woods Soil

Synopsis

A spirited young woman in a red cape is having an adventure in the woods when she happens upon The Wolf, who pursues her to the cabin of a Huntsman. The Huntsman chases The Wolf off and promises to return to the young woman as soon as he captures The Wolf. Fast forward several years – the young woman is now Grandmother Red and her granddaughter, Little Red, is just as spirited and adventurous as her grandmother ever was, much to Father Red's chagrin. As he prepares a basket of food for Little Red to take to her grandmother, Father Red advises her not to stray from the path. The Huntsman, now much older, reappears and warns Father Red and Little Red about The Wolf. Father Red ignores him and sends Little Red on her way. The Huntsman follows. The Wolf, discovering where Grandmother Red lives, goes to her cabin and eats her up. When Little Red arrives The Wolf eats her, too, then falls asleep. The Huntsman arrives and cuts open The Wolf's belly and pulls Grandmother Red and Little Red to safety. Grandmother Red and the Huntsman renew their love, Father Red learns how to use his long-dormant imagination, and The Wolf becomes the best pet a man could ever want.

Biography of the Author

The German brothers Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm spent years collecting and researching folk tales early in the 19th century. In 1812 they published *Children's and Household Tales*, a collection which became known as "Grimm's Fairy Tales." The collection included what are now some of the world's most famous stories, including *Cinderella*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Rapunzel* and *Rumpelstiltskin*. Wilhelm married in 1825, but Jacob never wed and for most of his life lived in his brother's home. The brothers also began a German historical dictionary, the enormous *Deutsches Wörterbuch*, which ran to 16 volumes when it was finally completed by others in 1954.

Biography of the Playwright

Brandon Roberts is an actor/director currently living in Orlando, FL. Originally from NC, Brandon holds a BFA in acting from the University of NC at Greensboro. He spent two years in Abingdon from 2000-2002 as a member of the Barter Players Company, and began work on Little Red during that time. Brandon keeps busy on the stages of Orlando, and is a producing member of PB&J Theatre Factory.

Question and Activities for Guided Study and Discussion

Kindergarten

- 1) Does The Wolf belong to the cat or dog family?
- 2) Draw a picture of what you think The Wolf looks like.
- 3) Do you have a pet? What is its name?
- 4) Where does Grandmother Red live?
- 5) What is Little Red doing when she breaks the porch railing?

First Grade

- 1) What sorts of things does Little Red imagine herself to be in the woods?
- 2) What's your favorite thing you imagine yourself to be? Draw a picture of it.
- 3) What would you do if you saw The Wolf in the woods?
- 4) Where did Little Red get her red cape?
- 5) Why does The Wolf have big eyes? Big ears? Big teeth?

Second Grade

- 1) Draw a picture of Little Red picking flowers in the woods.
- 2) Why didn't Father Red believe the Huntsman about The Wolf?
- 3) How does Father Red change from the beginning of the play to the end?
- 4) Discuss why The Wolf wants to eat Grandmother Red.
- 5) What does Grandmother Red do to protect herself when The Wolf attacks?

Third Grade

- 1) What is in the basket Little Red is carrying to her grandmother's house?
- 2) What part did the Woods Life play in telling this story?
- 3) Discuss how each is important to us – Soil, Rain, Sun and Wind.
- 4) How would you act out the part of Woods Rain? Soil? Sun? Wind?
- 5) Why do you think other characters speak for the wolf?

Fourth Grade

- 1) Why did it take the Huntsman so long to track down The Wolf?
- 2) What part do wolves play in our ecosystem? Are they important?
- 3) Why did the Grimm Brothers pick a wolf to be “the bad guy”?
- 4) Make a list of other stories that use a wolf in this manner.
- 5) Write a story where the hero is a wolf.

Fifth Grade

- 1) The Brothers Grimm also wrote *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella* and *Rapunzel*. How do these stories similar to *Little Red Riding Hood*? How are they different?
- 2) Rewrite *Little Red Riding Hood* with Sleeping Beauty as the hero. How does it change the story? Rewrite *Sleeping Beauty* with Little Red as the hero. Would it end the same?
- 3) What is the “moral” of this story? Do the playwright and the Brothers Grimm agree on the moral?
- 4) Write a story explaining where Grandmother Red got her red cape.
- 5) Does the color red symbolize anything in this story? Would it have made a difference if the cape was black or white or green?

Vocabulary

adventure
nurturing
deceptive
evaporates
scattered
generations

imagination
swarm
cunning
vicious
fiend
teepee

nonsense
dangerous
sensible
diligent
villain
imbecile