



CONTRASTING CINDERELLAS / CONNECTING LA CENERENTOLA TO LANGUAGE ARTS AND SCIENCE

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Designed for lower elementary grades

LESSON PREVIEW

In this lesson, the students will contrast the traditional Cinderella character with a modern, independent and socially conscious Cinderella.

[New York State Learning Standards for the Arts](#)

4 - Understanding the cultural dimensions and contributions of the arts

NYC ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

E2b - Response to Literature E2a - Persuasive Report

INTERDISCIPLINARY AREAS

English: Writing, Literary Analysis

Science: Biology

READING

Jackson, Ellen. Cinder Edna. Illus. Kevin O'Malley. Morrow, William and Co., 1998. A contemporary setting with two contrasting Cinderella type heroines.

WEB RESOURCES

<http://www.shens.com> - A great site for *Cinderella* books in their various cultural incarnations.

<http://minnetonka.k12.mn.us/science/> - A good site to look at for lesson plans and activities related to Earth care and environment.



INTRODUCING THE LESSON

1. Activate prior knowledge by eliciting from the students some of the familiar story elements of the traditional Cinderella story.
2. Ask the students to make predictions for Cinder Edna based on the title and cover picture.

DEVELOPING THE LESSON

1. Explain to the students that you will be reading a variation of the traditional Cinderella story and that they will be listening for how the story differs from the original.
2. During the read aloud, stop periodically to check for comprehension, asking questions such as: "What do you notice" or "What do you think will happen next?"
3. After reading the story, use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast *Cinderella* and *Cinder Edna*.

ASSESSING THE LESSON

1. Using the information on the Venn diagram, the students will write a narrative account that describes each character and then compares them. The students will add personal observations and opinions about how the role of women has changed through the years.

EXTENDING THE LESSON

1. Cinder Edna recycles, has a compost heap, and a solar-heated home. Follow up with Earth Day activities. After researching ways to save the Earth, students can write persuasive essays explaining why protecting the earth is important.