



# Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6

By Judy Freeman

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## Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6 By Judy Freeman

Judy Freeman, author of the **Books Kids Will Sit Still For** series, gives practical how-to tips on how to tell a story, and write and stage a Reader's Theater script that gets children involved with creative drama. Reader's theater teaches children how to become better listeners, enriches their thinking skills, and encourages their response to literature. Included are ideas on using folk and fairy tales, songs, chants and nonsense rhymes, and a reader's theater script. Also included in this handbook are 400 plus annotated children's books every storyteller should know, 100 great titles for creative drama and reader's theatre and professional books and Web sites for storytelling, creative drama and reader's theater. Grades PreK-6.

Judy Freeman, author of the **Books Kids Will Sit Still For** series, gives personal and practical how-to tips on how to learn and tell a story, how to act out a story using creative drama, and how to write and stage a Reader's Theater script. All are guaranteed to get your children listening, thinking, reading, loving, and living stories with comprehension, fluency, expression, and joy.

*Once Upon a Time* pulls together a wealth of ideas, activities, and strategies for using folk and fairy tales, songs, chants, and nonsense rhymes. Also included in this handbook are the texts of 10 of Judy's favorite stories you can read today and tell tomorrow; a songbook of songs, chants, and nonsense rhymes; and a Reader's Theater script. You'll also find annotated bibliographies: 400+ children's books every storyteller should know; 100+ great children's books to use for creative drama and Reader's Theater; professional books and Web sites for storytelling, creative drama, and Reader's Theater; and a title and author index.

Chapters include:

; Getting Started with Storytelling

; Judy Freeman's Songbook: Including Songs, Chants, Riddles, and Plenty of

Nonsense

; Judy Freeman's Storybook: Tales You can Hear Today and Tell Tomorrow

; 400+ Children's Books Every Storyteller Should Know

; Getting Started with Creative Drama and Reader's Theater

; 100+ Children's Books Just Right for Creative Drama and/or Reader's Theater

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Librarians who are looking for information to improve their library programs need look no further than Judy Freeman's book....In a straightforward, concise manner Freeman provides an excellent introduction to using all of these techniques. She tells media specialists how to prepare, practice, and perform a successful storytelling event....Her extensive diverse bibliographies provide additional guidance....Take the plunge and try something different at your library; using this book will guarantee librarians are prepared and supported in their efforts. Recommended." - **Library Media Connection**

"We all agree on the importance of story in the lives of children, but many of us stop at reading aloud. Don't. Freeman's advice and ready-to-use scripts, tales, chants, songs, accompanied by notes and tips, offer enough support, inspiration, and encouragement to get the most timid among us on our feet, sharing stories." -

#### Curriculum Connections

"What began as a handbook to accompany a series of storytelling workshops has become a compilation of tried-and-true stories, ideas, and activities for librarians working with children....Even librarians who have Freeman's earlier books will want this one. While new librarians will find the confidence to begin telling stories, those who are more experienced will be able to polish their skills, expand their repertoires, and incorporate reader's theater and creative drama into their programs." - **School Library Journal**

"Judy Freeman has more ideas for using children's literature than almost anyone we know. In this volume, she packs songs, readers theater, great-book lists, best professional books, good web sites, and more to attract librarian and teacher to make reading fun, exciting, creative, and beneficial to the literacy program of the school....Bottom line: Highly recommended for teachers and teacher-librarians who are on a quest to move beyond just deadly skills." - **Teacher Librarian**

"The ideas presented are very useful and based on materials written, presented, and taught by Judy Freeman. An author/title index enables the user to quickly find a section on the author or title they wish to present on, while the work itself enables easy browsing if one is unsure of what to present next." - **ARBA**

#### About the Author

JUDY FREEMAN ([www.JudyReadsBooks.com](http://www.JudyReadsBooks.com)) is a well-known consultant, writer, and speaker on children's literature and storytelling, and a visiting lecturer at the School of Information, and Library Science at Pratt Institute, New York City. A former school librarian, she gives conferences, workshops, speeches, and performances throughout the U.S. and the world for teachers, librarians, parents, and children, and is a national seminar presenter for BER (Bureau of Education and Research). Freeman served as a member of the Newbery Committee to select the Newbery Award book for the year 2000 and was on the Sibert Committee for 2008. Freeman's Library Unlimited books include *Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6*, the *Books Kids Will Sit Still For* series, and the yearly *The Winners Handbook*, reviewing her top 100 children's books of the past year. Judy's latest and most exciting project is writing children's book reviews and other content for author James Patterson's new website for parents, librarians, and teachers, [www.READKIDDOREAD.com](http://www.READKIDDOREAD.com).

## **Users Review**

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#### **Sylvester Wedding:**

Do you one among people who can't read gratifying if the sentence chained from the straightway, hold on guys this kind of aren't like that. This Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6 book is readable through you who hate those straight word style. You will find the facts here are arrange for enjoyable looking at experience without leaving actually decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer involving Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6 content conveys objective easily to understand by most people. The printed and e-book are not different in the content material but it just different such as it. So , do you continue to thinking Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6 is not loveable to be your top listing reading book?

#### **Isaiah Owen:**

The actual book Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6 has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was published by the very famous author. Tom makes some research prior to write this book. That book very easy to read you can find the point easily after scanning this book.

#### **Vikki Maynard:**

This Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6 is new way for you who has fascination to look for some information as it relief your hunger of information. Getting deeper you onto it getting knowledge more you know or perhaps you who still having little digest in reading this Once Upon a Time: Using Storytelling, Creative Drama, and Reader's Theater with Children in Grades PreK-6 can be the light food for you personally because the information inside this particular book is easy to get by anyone. These books produce itself in the form that is certainly reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book type. People who think that in e-book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this guide is the answer. So you cannot find any in reading a e-book especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for anyone. So , don't miss the idea! Just read this e-book style for your better life in addition to knowledge.

#### **Billy Smith:**

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