

Name _____

Family Times

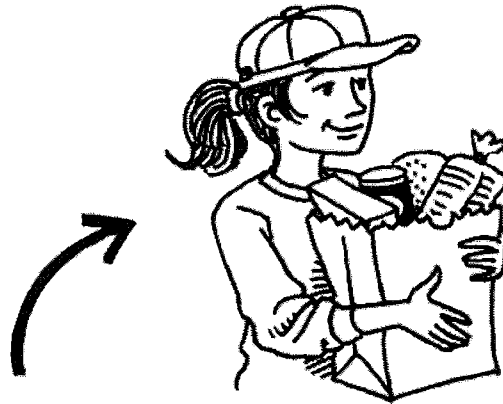
Summary

The Horned Toad Prince

On the windy prairies of the Southwest, Reba Jo meets a horned toad who makes a deal with her. When Reba Jo doesn't hold up her end of the bargain, the horned toad is offended and asks for a simple kiss to end the deal. That little kiss unlocks a magical spell, and the once-ugly toad becomes a prince!

Activity

Inside a Fairy Tale Rewrite your favorite fairy tale with your family members as characters and your community as the setting. Write the story in common, everyday language.



Little Red Baseball Cap, on her way to Grandma's apartment

Comprehension Skill

Author's Purpose

The **author's purpose** is the reason or reasons the author has for writing. An author may write to persuade, to inform, to entertain, or to express ideas and feelings.

Activity

News Clues Find an article in the newspaper with pictures. Read only the headline and look only at the pictures. Then work with a family member to try to guess the author's purpose. Finally, read the article to see if your guess was correct.

Lesson Vocabulary

Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *The Horned Toad Prince*. Practice using these words.

Vocabulary Words

bargain an agreement to trade; deal

favor act of kindness

lassoed roped; caught with a lasso

offended hurt the feelings of someone; made angry

prairie a large area of level or rolling land with grass but few or no trees

riverbed a channel in which a river flows or used to flow

shrieked made a loud, sharp, shrill sound

Conventions

Compound Sentences

A **compound sentence** contains two simple sentences joined by a comma and a joining word. Joining words are *and*, *but*, and *or*. *For example: She wanted to play outside, but it was raining.* Be careful not to confuse compound sentences with sentences that have compound predicates. A compound predicate associates two or more verb phrases with a simple subject. *For example: Paul brushed his teeth and went to bed.*

Activity

Keep It Simple On two note cards write *Keep It Simple* and *Make It Compound*. Place these cards face down. When the players are ready, turn over one of the cards. If the card says *Keep It Simple*, each player should write down two simple sentences. If the card says *Make It Compound*, each player should write down a compound sentence. The first player to write a correct sentence or sentences wins.

Practice Tested Spelling Words

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