

Good Question

By Sue Whiting and Annie White

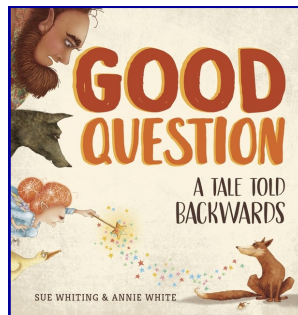
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A very hungry fox in search of food stumbles into one wrong fairytale after another trying to flee some very high-profile fairytale characters, eventually giving Henny Penny the fright of her life.

Have you ever wondered why Henny Penny thought the sky was falling? Well, here's a story that might just give you the answer. Told from Fox's point of view this magical tale links fairy story and nursery rhyme characters in a delightful, funny and quirky way. All Fox wants is a tasty meal to fill his hungry belly. But he keeps wandering into the WRONG stories. No dinner for him – just more trouble! Will Fox ever find the RIGHT story?



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Fairytales
- Adventure

Discussion Questions & Activities:

- What do you think the story might be about, from looking at the title only? Make up your own story using the title *Good Question*.
- The subtitle of this book is “A Tale Told Backwards.” What is a subtitle? What do you think this subtitle might mean?

Exploring the Book:

- Who do you think the audience for this book is? Why?
- *Good Question* is an imaginative text. What do you think that means? How can you tell?
- Fox goes through a range of feelings in the story. Look at each spread and discuss how Fox might be feeling (other than hungry). Discuss situations when students have felt the same way and why.
- Think about the story from one of the other fairytale character’s perspectives, like the giant, the wolf, or the fairy godmother. How might they see events differently to Fox? Is either perspective right or wrong? Perhaps write or tell the story from the perspective of the giant, the wolf, the bears or the fairy godmother. What would they be thinking, feeling and saying? What might have happened after the fox left? How would the fox entering their “story” change the original story?
- Fill in a Book Report Card for *Good Question*. Include: Title / Author / Illustrator / your favourite part / favourite character / favourite illustration / favourite sentence / what you liked about the book / what the author could have done better / who you think would enjoy it the most.
- On the whiteboard or on a large sheet of paper, place an image of the cover of *Good Question* and surround it with words that describe the book. Include words that describe what you liked and what you disliked about the book.
- Identify each fairytale Fox goes through. Does reading *Good Question* make you think differently about any of your favourite fairytales? Why or why not? Did the fox belong in these stories? Why or why not?

The Ending:

- Why did Fox think it was now finally dinnertime? What did he see that made him think his luck might be changing?
- How does this ending change what you know about the story of Henny Penny? Take a look at the final wordless spread with the hen, duck and goose following the fox. Tell the story of what happens next.