

The Story of Zadig

Topic: Observation

Curriculum link: English

Text type: Folk tale

Reading level: 24

Word count: 676

Vocabulary: adviser, astonished, bit, chief, dungeon, forefoot, hooves, huntsman, impressed, majesties, searching, servants, spaniel, trot

Possible literacy focus

Investigating aspects of folk tales.

Recalling a sequence of events in a narrative.

Identifying plot features: orientation (who, what, where, when), problem (what went wrong) and resolution (how the problem was fixed).

Summary

This book tells the tale of an observant man who was wrongly imprisoned but eventually becomes the king's and queen's advisor.

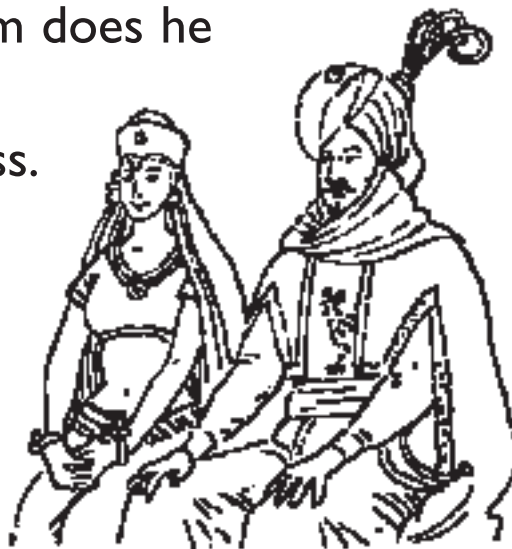
Task Card

Continue the story

You will need:

paper, pencils

1. Now that Zadig is the royal advisor, what other advice do you think he will give to the king and queen?
2. Write the next section of the story. Include an episode where Zadig's advice is needed by the king and queen. What problem does he solve?
3. Share your story with the class.





Name _____

Putting the story in order

Number the following parts of the story to show the correct order of events. Cut out the sections and make them into a mini book. Illustrate each page. Put your book in the class library for others to read and enjoy.

The chief huntsman talked to the chief servant and together they decided that Zadig must have stolen the queen's spaniel and the king's horse.

They went to the king and told him what they thought. The king ordered Zadig to be locked in the dungeon.

The next day, the queen's spaniel and the king's horse were found in distant parts of the forest. The chief huntsman, the chief servant and the king and the queen could not work out how Zadig knew so much about the animals when he did not steal them. Zadig was released from the dungeon and brought before the king and queen.

The next day, the finest horse from the king's stable escaped. The king's huntsmen asked Zadig if the king's horse had passed by that way. Zadig told them all about the horse but then added that he had never seen the horse.

The servants asked Zadig if he had seen the queen's dog. He told them about a little dog with long ears and a limp. But then he added that he had never seen the dog.

The king and queen were most impressed. They asked Zadig to be an advisor and come and live with them in the palace.

Zadig explained how he noticed the tracks of the little dog. He also saw that some tracks were lighter than others, which suggested he had a limp. He also saw light marks which told him that the dog had long ears.

The king and queen were impressed and asked how he knew about the horse. Zadig explained this too.

Long ago, in a country far away, there lived a poor young man named Zadig.

One day, he was out walking in the forest when he saw some of the king's servants. They seemed to be searching for something.



Name _____

Where?

Some words tell us where something happened. Match the phrases to complete these sentences.

The king ordered Zadig to be locked	in the forest , he saw some of the king's servants.
As they passed through the forest ,	light marks where the earth had been brushed forward.
They were peering this way and that, looking	in distant parts of the forest.
On either side of the tracks were	overhung the path.
As I was walking through the forest ,	in the dungeon.
One day, when Zadig was walking	I saw the tracks of a little dog.
Some leaves had been broken off the branch of a tree which	they met Zadig.
The next day, the queen's spaniel and the king's horse were found	behind trees and under logs , searching for something.

Now write some sentences using words that describe where something happened. Share them with a friend.
