

Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story by different authors or from different cultures.

Story Variations Activity

Required Materials:

- A copy of the comparison chart for each student.
- Multiple versions of the Cinderella Story (see list of suggestions on the following page).

Instructions for Teacher:

On day 1, introduce the Cinderella story to students with a classic version of the story, like the one illustrated by James Marshall.

After reading, discuss the points on the comparison chart: characters, setting, conflict or problem, resolution or solution. Fill out the first section of the comparison chart together.

On the second day, read another variation of the Cinderella story from the suggestions below. After reading, fill out the section section of the comparison chart together.

As a class, discuss the similarities and differences with the version read the previous day.

On the third day, read another variation of the Cinderella story, and discuss the similarities and differences between the three versions of the story.

Instruct students to fill out the third section of the comparison chart on their own or with a partner. Students should also write a brief response about the similarities and differences between the three versions.

Create a chart with room for the comparison of three books. The headings should be:

- Title
- Characters
- Setting (Country of origin)
- Conflict or Problem
- Resolution or Solution

Leave a few lines at the bottom of the page for students to write a response to these prompts:

- What similarities are there between the stories?
- What differences are there between the stories?

Here are some suggested variations of the Cinderella story:

Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story from China by Ai-Ling Louie

The Rough-Face Girl by Rafe Martin

Sootface by Robert D. San Souci

Chinye: A West African Folk Tale by Obi Onyefulu

Cendrillon: A Caribbean Cinderella by Robert D. San Souci

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe

Fair, Brown & Trembling: An Irish Cinderella Story by Jude Daly

Domitila: A Cinderella Tale from the Mexican Tradition by Jewell Reinhart Coburn

Raisel's Riddle by Erica Silverman

The Egyptian Cinderella by Shirley Climo

The Golden Slipper: A Vietnamese Legend by Darrell H. Y. Lum

Abadeha: The Philippine Cinderella by Myrna J. De LA Paz

The Gift of the Crocodile: A Cinderella Story by Judy Sierra

Smoky Mountain Rose by Alan Schroeder