

UNIT 5 Pass It On
Folk Literature Connections

A STEM school

FROEBEL
BILINGUAL SCHOOL

Home of the Space Generation



THE WHITE SNAKE

WITH
JIM SOTO

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Do you remember any fairy tales from your childhood?
If so, which features were the most appealing to you?
Take a minute to react and explain your response in the notebook.

What do they all have in common?



WORD-OF-MOUTH TO PAPER

Many of the fairy tales you know began as folk songs and stories from European oral traditions and were later written down. The Grimm brothers, Jacob and Wilhelm, collected word-of-mouth tales, including “The White Snake” and “Rapunzel,” in their native Germany. In France, Charles Perrault created written versions of other folk stories—among them, “Cinderella” and “Sleeping Beauty.”

Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen retold such tales as “The Ugly Duckling,” and “The Emperor’s New Clothes.”



Fairy tales include stories of princes and princesses, of witches and magic both good and evil. Most modern retellings have positive endings, with the protagonists overcoming great challenges, but living 'happily ever after'.

However, 'once upon a time', they were far darker. Often, they were used as warnings to children. They would warn children about the dangers of going to the forests alone. Or they would show the dangers of trusting strangers or of disobeying your parents. That's why, fairy tales were often gruesome and gory.

ON THE WHITE SNAKE

The White Snake by the Bros. Grimm is a German folktale. Jakob and Wilhelm, were German academics, linguists, cultural researchers, and authors who collected and published folklore during the 19th century. They collected and published several editions of the fairy tales, including "The Story of the Youth Who Went Forth to Learn What Fear Was," the German version of the White Snake. The Bros. Grimm collected the story from oral tradition and published it in their first edition of *Kinder- und Hausmärchen* (Children's and Household Tales) in 1812.





LITERARY CONCEPT

Fairy Tale

Is a story that deals with mischievous spirits and other supernatural occurrences, often in medieval settings. Many fairy tales contain more than just playful or mean-spirited creatures. In fairy tales, humans usually have some kind of magical experience that changes them in significant ways. In this tale, the spirits represent good; but in others, they are evil.

LITERARY SKILL

Classify Information

When you classify information, you separate it into groups according to significant qualities. For example, you might classify characters in “The White Snake” into groups: ordinary humans, humans with supernatural abilities, and talking animals.

Classifying helps you understand a story’s major ideas. As you read the selection, use this chart to list other classifications.

Group 1: Ordinary Humans	Group 2: Supernatural Humans	Group 3: Talking Animals
Characters: Queen	Characters: King	Characters:

ASSESSMENT

After reading pgs. 454 -458, in your book, complete these activities:

1. REFER TO TEXT &
2. REASON WITH TEXT
3. & ANALYZE LITERATURE
 - **Fairy Tale** - Among the characters in fairy tales are mischievous spirits (such as elves, imps, ogres, and fairies) and magical elements. What are the mischievous spirits or magical elements in "The White Snake"? How do these unusual beings affect the story?



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