

La moufle by Julie Mellan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OUd4EoePAcw>

Teacher's Overview

This story is based on an oral Russian storytelling tradition. It tells the tale of a mitten lying on the floor of the forest, and of animals trying to get into it to keep warm. As many phrases are repeated throughout, it lends itself easily to the MFL classroom. Children will love adapting the story with their own objects and animals.

Rationale

By the end of KS2, pupils should be able to *appreciate stories, songs, poems, and rhymes in the target language*. Using authentic stories is a great way to motivate pupils to learn. They are exposed to new or familiar language in context and develop fluency and confidence in using the language.

Learning objective:

- To extend the range of familiar **nouns** to include the names of some forest animals
- To be able to follow the text of a story and identify the meaning of words
- To join in with the words of a familiar story

Suggestions for the classroom

- Show pupils the book cover on the clip and ask them to guess what the story may be about.
- Watch and listen to the story and check what the children have understood.
- Make flashcards or a PowerPoint to introduce the names of the 6 forest animals which appear in the story highlighting **gender**

L' écureuil	squirrel
Le blaireau	badger
L'ours	bear
La souris	mouse
Le lapin	rabbit
Le renard	fox

- Ask pupils to listen out for a specific animal in the story and perform a specific action each time they hear it
- Play the story again but stop when it comes to the name of the animal for pupils to say the word.
- Gradually add in more repeated phrases to allow pupils a sense that they are telling the story *themselves*.

<i>Suggested phrases for repetition</i>	
Brrr, j'ai si froid	Brr, I'm so cold
Oh...mais qu'est -ce que je vois ?	Oh what can I see here ?
Ho hé, je peux entrer ?	Hey, hey, can I come in ?

Follow up activities

- Pupils could adapt (part of) the story by adding in other animals, perhaps using props.
- Pupils could rewrite their own simplified version of the story.
- Pupils write their opinion of the story in the target language to demonstrate their ability to write positive and negative statements
- Pupils could perform the story (within a group, to the class, to another class, to a younger class, in assembly, with props and/or puppets; a narrator can be included)

IMPACT

Using authentic stories is a great way to motivate pupils to engage with their language learning. Activities provided allow for the development of resilience in language learning and may provide opportunities to assess progress. This story provides opportunities to develop competency in all four skill areas as well as the chance to broaden vocabulary.

Key verbs in the book	
claquer des dents	To chatter (teeth)
se faufiler	To sneak in
grelotter	To shiver
frissonner	To shiver
frémir	To quiver, shudder
geler	To be freezing