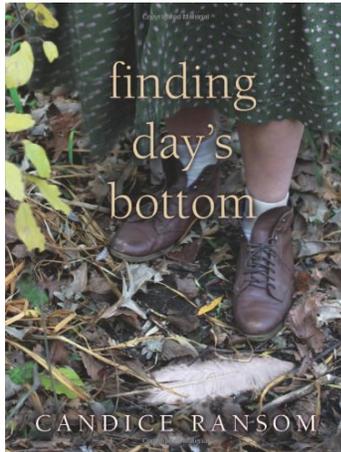


Teacher's Guide for *Finding Day's Bottom*



Telling Stories – CCSS.ELA RI.5.7

Grandpap tells Jane-Ery three stories, which are oral folktales collected by Richard Chase. Chase quotes storyteller Tom Hunt: “No, it’ll not do just to read the old tales out of a book. You’ve got to tell ‘em to make ‘em go right.” Let students find a folk tale they like to tell. Here are storytelling tips:

- Don’t worry about memorizing, tell it in your own words.
- Practice telling it out loud. Leave out “um” and “you know.”
- Look at the audience.

Vivid Expressions – CCSS.ELA RI.5.5

Jane-Ery, her mother, and Grandpap say things like, “moony as white horse,” and “a toad-strangler rain.” The way they talk is part of the Appalachian region where they live. Most of us are familiar with such expressions as, “it’s raining cats and dogs,” meaning it’s raining hard. These sayings are called *idioms*. Many areas in the U.S. and in other countries use colorful expressions that may not make sense to strangers.

Ask students to think of sayings used at home. Have them keep a record of their parents or grandparents’ expressions. Let them make up their own!

Sources:

- Chase, Richard. *Grandfather Tales*. New York: Houghton, 1973.
The Jack Tales. New York: Sandpiper, 2003.
The Idioms: Largest Idioms Dictionary
www.theidioms.com/kids/