

LESSON PLAN TITLE: Transformed!

Writer-in-Residence: Rachel Cawkwell

Grade Level: 2nd-4th

Model Works Used: *Julián is a Mermaid* by Jessica Love

Literary Learning objective(s): Students will practice sequencing events to move a story from problem to resolution.

Themes: transformation, change, costume

MDE/SEL Standards:

- 2nd grade writing standard: Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.
- 3rd grade writing standard: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.
- Responsible decision-making (solving problems)

Materials Needed: paper, pencil, costume (optional)

Opening Activity

Let's play a game to warm-up. What would it be like if you transformed, or changed, into a different creature? Choose one of the following animals to act out.



Sloth



Panther



Chicken



Hippopotamus

Pre-Discussion

Sudden changes can be hard. I know it's weird having to stay home right now. But sometimes change can be a lot of fun! I love on Halloween when I get to change into something crazy like a vampire or a queen. We're going to read a book about someone who changes into a mermaid!

Model Poem Discussion

Watch along with me as I read *Julián is a Mermaid*.

Prewriting

Let's brainstorm three different creatures we might change or transform into.



Something that would be EXCITING to change into: _____



Something that would be SCARY to change into: _____



Something that would be SILLY to change into: _____

Writing Prompt

Imagine a family member walked into your room and saw that you were suddenly transformed into one of the creatures you brainstormed! They are confused and don't know what to do! How will you calm them down?

Write a poem to explain step by step what happened and what you're going to do next. If you want to really imagine what it'd be like to be transformed, put on a costume before you start writing, even if it's just a silly hat or a pajama shirt.

Share / Reflect

Share your poem with someone in your family. Read it aloud to them in a loud, brave voice so you can reassure them you got this whole transformation thing under control.

When you're done, you can ask them if the order of the story makes sense to them. Would they add any other steps? You can edit your poem together to add in new things or move things around.

Title: Transformed into _____

Don't panic! First, let me tell you what happened.

I was _____

(what activity were you doing before?)

when _____

(what made you transform?)

Next _____

(what happened when you transformed?)

Now, I'm _____

(what do you look like? how do you feel?)

But don't worry! I have a plan.

I'm going to _____

(what will you do first?)

Then I'll _____

(what will you do second?)

In no time, I'll _____

(what will be your happy ending?)

EXAMPLE:

Transformed into A Turtle

Don't panic! First, let me tell you what happened.

I was trying to do a handstand

when I tumbled deep into the closet.

Next I found my head in a box full of leaky potions.

Now I'm green and wrinkly!

But don't worry! I have a plan.

I'm going to plod slowly back toward the closet.

Then I'll waddle around until I find the right cure.

In no time, I'll be practicing gymnastics again.

Check/Highlight all that apply

- Text by a contemporary/diverse author
- Translated text
- Visual Thinking Strategies
- Close reading or other analysis
- At least one step of the writing process
- Planning & Reflection Strategy
- New device, concept or theme
- Social-Emotional Learning
 - Self-Management
 - Social Awareness
 - Relationship Skills
 - Responsible-Decision Making
 - Self-Awareness