

English Literature Copybook Activities

Grade 4

Lesson: The Horned Toad Prince

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Illustrated by Michael Austin

A. Write meaning for the following words.

1. arroyo :- a narrow valley which is usually dry
2. blustery :- very windy
3. critter :- a living creature
4. gallop :- to ride horse very fast
5. lonesome :- deserted or isolated
6. retrieve :- to get something back
7. riverbed :- the bed or channel in which a river flows
8. slam :- to shut the door with great force

B. Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What is a trickster tale?
A trickster tale is a story in which animals outsmart bigger and stronger creatures.
2. What is the setting of the story “The Horned Toad Prince” and how do you know?
The story set in a desert because there are sagebrush, tumbleweed, cacti and sand, which all belongs to desert environment.
3. Who are the three main characters of the story “The Horned Toad Prince”?
The three main characters are Reba Jo, Horned toad and Reba Jo’s father.

C. Answer the following questions in detail.

1. How did the prince turn into a toad and what was he waiting for?
Many years ago when the prince came to the country, he offended the great spirit of the arroyo. The spirit put a spell on him and turned the prince into a horned toad. Since then, the toad had been waiting for a cowgirl to break the spell.
2. How did Reba Jo spend her time on the prairie? What was her favourite pastime?
Reba Jo twanged her guitar and sang with the wind to be entertained herself on the lonesome prairie. Sometimes she amused herself by racing her horse against cartwheeling tumbleweed. But her favourite pastime was lassoing cacti, water buckets, fence posts and any unlucky critter that crossed her path.