

-The enactive stage should be presented in such a way that each child chosen to be a character decides how he should move and how he would sound. The one element in the story which should be prepared carefully is the time the characters sing together. It might be helpful to introduce simple classroom instruments to help the singing characters maintain their rhythm. Teachers might experiment with the following instruments and patterns.

-The iconic stage should feature hand puppets. A large rectangular table will provide a simple setting and a character may begin at each corner. A simple y-shaped building block will provide a tree for the owl.

-Further presentations leading toward the symbolic stage will be simple to plan because of the children's high level of motivation. Each level of presentation will also be enhanced by the fact that every child in the classroom will be able to participate in some way. While some are characters in the story, others will join in the "singing sounds, and still others will play instruments to underline the rhythm of the singing.

Kisander and the Mango Tree

A West Indies tale, perhaps also from Africa, about problems with stealing. This adaption starring the well known spider, Anansi, underlines the dangers of stealing.

The Story of Kisander and the Mango Tree

Kisander the cat had a beautiful mango tree outside her home. Hundreds of juicy, ripe mangoes were hanging on the branches almost ready to harvest. Every day a big spider named Anansi went past Kisander's house. He would look over the fence at the mangoes and wish that he could eat some. But Anansi was afraid of Kisander. She was a very smart cat and had long sharp claws. She could move very quietly and could even see in the dark with her big cat eyes. If Anansi tried to take some of her mangoes, she might catch him. But each day that Anansi went by Kisander's garden, he got hungrier and hungrier for the delicious mangoes. One day he decided that it was time to climb the tree and get some mangoes.

That night Anansi waited outside of Kisander's garden until he saw her go into the house, sing to her children, turn off the lights and go to bed.

Kisander's Lullaby

