

Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning

Rapunzel by Bethan Woollvin (Two Hoots)

1. Explore it



Rapunzel lived all alone in a tall, dark tower.
She was trapped there by a witch, who visited every day.

Read the first sentence of the text...

What do you know is happening from the sentence? Where is it happening? Have you heard the name Rapunzel before? What do you already know, or think you know about her and her story?

Now re-read the sentence again and think about the information we are given here? What is the tower like? Which words tell you this? Who are the characters in the story? What do you think they are like from what you have read? How do you know?

2. Illustrate it

Re-read these opening sentence again, a few times. What do you see in your mind's eye as you read this? What do the main characters look like? What about the tower? What else is part of the setting?

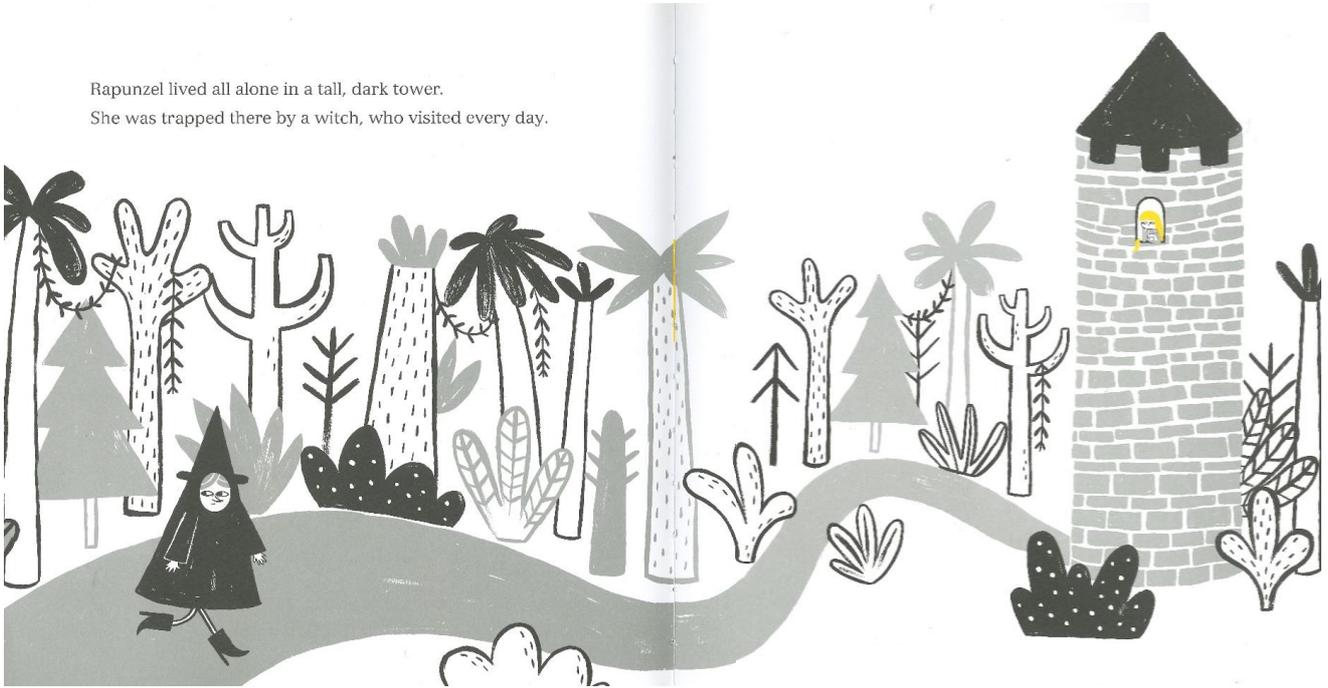
After you have read the opening of the story a few times, take a pen or pencil and a bit of scrap paper. You can use the back of an old envelope or cereal packet; whatever is to hand.

Draw what you imagine is happening here to illustrate the words you have heard and seen. Maybe other people in your family want to draw what they imagine her as well. Remember, everyone has their own ideas and imagines things their own way. This is a good thing!

Once you have drawn your picture, share your drawings with someone else if you can, or talk about what you have drawn with someone else: what is similar about the drawings? What is different?

Now, look at how the illustrator, Bethan Woollvin, has chosen to draw this scene. This is on the next page so that this doesn't influence your own ideas. What is similar and different about her illustration?

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3. Talk about it

Read the text again while looking at the illustration in the text. What do you notice about the picture? How do you think Rapunzel feels in this picture? What tells you this? What do you think the character of the witch is like? What do you think she is thinking or doing in the picture? What do you think might happen next in this story? What will happen as the witch walks down the path and up to the tower? You could draw and write your ideas in pictures and words, or just write what you think will happen in the rest of the story yourself.

4. Imagine it

Look at the picture again. Focus in on Rapunzel in the tower. What do you think it feels like to live **'all alone in a tall, dark tower'**? What are the nice things about having time to yourself? How might this be different when we know that she is 'trapped; rather than choosing to be by herself? What might you miss about seeing the world and other people if you were trapped indoors?

5. Create it

Write a letter to Rapunzel to help her take her mind off being lonely. Do you know some good things that she could do while she's by herself that you could share with her? Do you have any ideas of what she could do to stop herself being bored? Do you have a plan that you could share with her on how to escape? Take a

paper and pen or pencil and write your letter. Share this with someone else at home. Do they think this is a good way to offer comfort or strength to her?