Year 5 English Graduate Award - Spring

What is a Traditional Tale?

A Traditional Tale is a story that has been told and re-told for hundreds of years and is passed on through generations. They can also be known as traditional stories or fairy stories. Over time, stories and characters may change, but the themes will remain; good versus evil, kindness and generosity.

More recently, it has become popular to write more modern versions of traditional tales where the character and setting has been given a more up-to-date twist. These versions are fun to read but still contain the same themes as the originals.
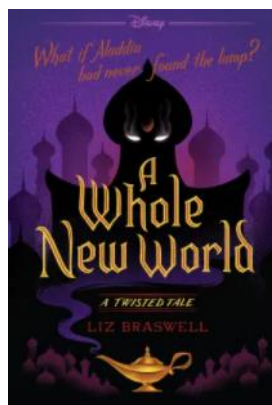
Further examples of traditional tales have been told by a different character from the tale so that an alternative viewpoint can be expressed. This might be the Wolf from The Three Little Pigs who had a cold and couldn't stop sneezing or the pea who wasn't really happy about being squashed by so many mattresses and a Princess.

What is a Twisted Tale?

What if Sleeping Beauty never woke up? What if Belle's mother cursed the Beast? What if Aladdin had never found the lamp? These are questions that are explored in the Disney Twisted Tales series. An alternative version to the original with a darker theme to explore.

Examples of Twisted Tales

Here are some examples of Twisted versions of classic traditional tales:

Challenge 1

What is a traditional tale?

Name 3 different traditional tales.

What can you learn from traditional tales?

What is an alternative traditional tale? Why have authors written alternative versions?

What is a Twisted Tale?

Challenge 2

Choose a Twisted Tale to read and focus on how to change the theme of the story. Write your own version of a Twisted Tale. What if Red Riding Hood got lost in the forest? What if Sleeping Beauty had never met the Dwarves? Have fun writing.