

Probable Passage

What is Probable Passage and why is it important?

Probable Passage (Wood, 1984) encourages students to write an original story. Students use their knowledge of story structure along with selected vocabulary words to create a plausible story before reading. Students enjoy writing the story and then comparing it to the actual text.

How do I use Probable Passage with my students?

Help students use selected vocabulary words from the story and a Story Grammar graphic organizer to develop a story. As students think of a story, help them integrate the vocabulary words. After students read the actual story, have them compare it to their original stories. Following is a Probable Passage for the story *Strega Nona*.

Vocabulary: Peeking Potions Magic Pasta

Setting: In a town a long time ago

Characters: witch, cat

Events:

1. Once upon a time a lady was making pasta.
2. She saw a cat peeking from behind her stove into the pot.
3. The woman yelled at the cat to get away.
4. The cat ran off but his tail hit a jar.
5. The jar held magic potions that spilled on the pot.
6. Every time she cooks the lady makes magic food.
7. Everyone thinks the lady is a witch.

Story Summary: Once upon a time a lady was making pasta. She saw a cat peeking from behind her stove into the pot. The woman yelled at the cat to get away. The cat ran off but his tail hit a jar. The jar held magic potions that spilled on the pot. Every time she cooks the lady makes magic food. Everyone thinks the lady is a witch.



Name: _____ Date: _____

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Vocabulary:

Setting:

Characters:

Events:

Ending:

Summary:

