Trade Book Sheet

Title of Book: Kate and the Beanstalk

Author’s name: Mary Pope Osborne

Publisher: Simon and Schuster Children’s publishing Division

Copyright year: 2000

Reading level: 3rd grade

Genre: Fairytale

Synopsis of story:

The book *Kate and the Beanstalk* is a different version of the classic story Jack and the Beanstalk. This book tells a story of a girl named Kate and her mother who are poor and need food. Kate goes to town and trades their only cow for a handful of seeds. Her mother throws the seeds out the window and a huge beanstalk grows in the place of the beans that were thrown. Kate climbs the beanstalk up through the clouds and comes across a castle in the sky. Here lives a giantess and her giant husband. Kate uses her quick wit to outsmart the giant and steal many of his prized possessions for her and her mother. In the end Kate kills the giant by cutting down the beanstalk. Her mother and her move into the castle in the clouds and live a rich plentiful life.

Standard:

Science 3: Common Themes, Constancy and Change Standard 3.6.4- Take, record, and display counts and simple measurements of things over time, such as plant or student growth.

Activity:

An activity that would meet this standard and correspond with the book is plants. This activity would be tied into a science lesson after the students have had the book read to them by the teacher. The science lesson that would be taught at the same time would be a lesson about
plants and their growth and development. The students would each get a bean seed, a Styrofoam cup and some soil. As a class they would all plant their seed into the soil and water it. Day to day the students would water and watch the growth of the seed as it turns into a plant. They would each have a plant journal to record and draw pictures of the plant from the beginning stages until it is fully grown. The growth of their plant can be compared to the huge bean stalk in the story. The students would also discuss the height of the plant and why some plants grow more or less.

**Standard:**

Reading 3: Literary Response and Analysis **Standard 3.3.2-** Comprehend basic plots of classic fairy tales, myths, folktales, legends, and fables from around the world.

**Activity:**

An activity that would meet this standard and correspond to the book would be about fairytales. This activity is tied in with the literacy part of class. The teacher would read the book, *Kate and the Beanstalk* to the class, and have background information about where the tale originated from and what country it began in. In a grand discussion the class would talk about the plot, characters, setting, and morals of story. This discussion will help the students have a better understanding of the story and all the elements of it. Then the students would break up into small groups and each be handed a fairytale from a different part of the world. The students would have to read the story in their group and discuss why they think the story is from that area of the world. They will also talk about the clues that are in the book show that, that is where the story originated from. The students will also discuss the plot of their stories and all the elements of a book. Within the small groups they should try to see if their story is similar to one that they
have heard before or recognize. Then each group will share their story with the class and explain it and all the information that they discussed in their group.