

PEACHTREE
TEACHER'S GUIDE



Rapunzel

Written and illustrated by Bethan Woollvin

HC: 978-1-68263-003-7

PB: 978-1-68263-279-6

Ages 5–9

AR • Lexile • F&P • GRL K; Gr 2

ABOUT THE BOOK

Bold design and bold characters come together in *Rapunzel* by Bethan Woollvin. In this retelling, Rapunzel is no fragile princess who needs to wait for a prince to rescue her—she fashions her own escape, kills the witch, and becomes a witch hunter. The striking and humorous black and yellow illustrations are full of wonderfully mischievous details.

BEFORE YOU READ

Tell a traditional version of Rapunzel ensuring you include the witch's request, "Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair!"

AS YOU READ

- Turn to *Rapunzel* by Bethan Woollvin and read the opening, enjoying the illustrations of the witch's tights and Rapunzel as a frog.
- Make up some actions for "swish, swish" and "snip, snip" as you read them. Ask: Why does the witch look after Rapunzel's hair? Why does she keep Rapunzel? What does she say she'll do to Rapunzel if Rapunzel runs away?
- Look at the things that Rapunzel does in the forest and point out how Rapunzel makes her ladder. Ask: Can you see where Rapunzel hides the ladder at night? What else from the forest has made it up into Rapunzel's tower?
- Cheer as the witch comes to a sticky end, locating the witch's legs as Rapunzel climbs down the tower. What does Rapunzel do once she is free of the witch? How do you know?

- Look at the endpapers together and find all four witches hiding there.
- Read the book again, looking out for the smaller details such as the chicken, the bunny, the scissors, how Rapunzel occupies her time in the tower, and so on.

AFTER YOU READ

Ask your students the following questions:

- Do you prefer Rapunzel to rescue herself or is it nice for her to be rescued by someone?
- Was Rapunzel right to kill the witch?
- Do you think the witch really would have been able to turn Rapunzel into a frog?
- Is Rapunzel scared of the witch?
- What do you think Rapunzel is thinking as she looks out of the tower window, or as the witch brushes her hair?

STORY EXTENSION

- Ask, what will happen to Rapunzel in her new life?
- Discuss the different things that she might come across in her travels (for example, a young boy trapped in a tower, a witch who has a little girl as prisoner, a prince who has been turned into a frog, a wizard asking for help).
- Talk about what might happen in each situation. What might happen after the end of the story? Perhaps all the people she rescues come to live with her in the tower (which now has a front door and lots of rooms)?

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

- Cut out and reorder the pictures from the “Story Sort” reproducible page in this guide. Write a caption for each image (a couple of words or a sentence, or a dictated phrase depending on age and ability).
- Use the template on the reproducible page “*Rapunzel: The Sequel*” to draw your own story.
- Make a tower using a roll of paper. Use the models to retell your own version of *Rapunzel*.
- Decide how Rapunzel ended up in the tower and decide how she escapes. Perhaps Jack will plant one of his magic beans near the tower; perhaps her mother finds her; perhaps the birds deliver a letter from Rapunzel to a local magician?
- What will happen to the witch at the end? What will happen to Rapunzel?
- Paint a forest in the style of Bethan Woollvin. Use black and grey paint for the trees and just one or two objects in yellow, or another single color. Pretend that Rapunzel arrives in a city. Paint tall black skyscrapers and a small yellow Rapunzel looking out of the window of one

REVIEWS

“Utilizing simple, bold strokes of yellow, black, and gray inks, Woollvin expressively fills each page with eye-catching details that will bring readers back for another look. Fans of her *Little Red* (2016) will enjoy this latest feisty and intelligent heroine.”

—*Booklist*

“Pockets of eye-popping aureolin rivaling the brightest of yellow hues add to the black and grayscale to bring warmth and humor to the dark woods with a distinctive, quirky signature style as Rapunzel fearlessly rallies to her own rescue.”

—*Foreword Reviews*

“Woollvin (*Little Red*, rev. 3/16) offers another wryly comic rewrite of a Grimms favorite, updating it with a can-do, self-rescuing heroine... Bold, graphic illustrations... capture the fusion of modern and traditional elements and offer sly tidbits of humor.”

—*The Horn Book Magazine*

“The blocky gouache illustrations in gray and black, strategically accented with yellow... heighten the timbre, suggesting both deviousness and joy.... Empowerment in leaps and bounds.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

“It’s about time that Rapunzel saved herself, and in Woollvin’s sly follow-up to 2016’s *Little Red*, she does exactly that.... Thanks to Woollvin, readers may grow up thinking this just-wicked-enough retelling is the classic one; if they ever stumble across versions with the prince, they may wonder why he was thought necessary.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“Children will adore Rapunzel and cheer her victory over evil personified. A perfect length for storytime and those seeking fairy tale variants.”

—*School Library Journal*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bethan Woollvin graduated from the Cambridge School of Art with a First Class Degree in Illustration. She has since made a name for herself with dark and witty twists on traditional stories. Her first book, a fractured fairy tale, *Little Red*, won the prestigious Macmillan Prize for Illustration and was named a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Children’s Book. She also wrote and illustrated *Rapunzel* as well as *Hansel & Gretel*. Bethan lives in England, where she continues to create extraordinary books.

www.bethanwoollvin.com

Teacher’s Guide
prepared by Two Hoots

Copyright ©2020 by Peachtree Publishing Company Inc. All rights reserved. For instructional uses only and not for resale. Except for the printing of complete pages, with the copyright notice—no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other without written permission. Requests for permission to use any section of the work should be mailed to: Permissions Department, Peachtree Publishing Company Inc., 1700 Chattahoochee Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30318-2112.

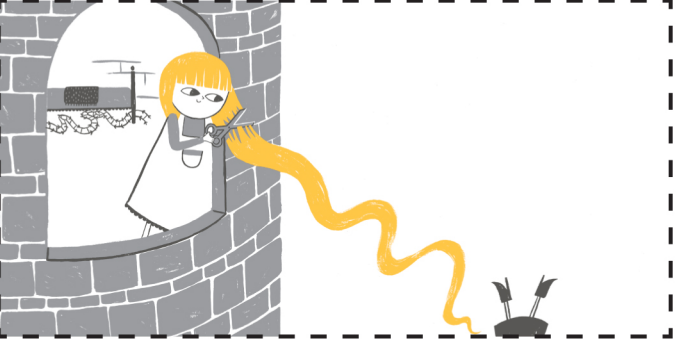
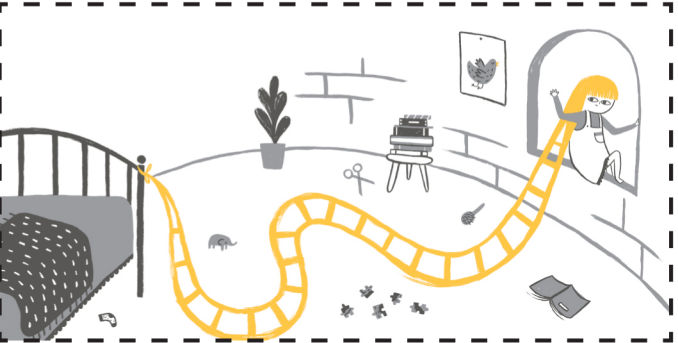
404-876-8761 • 800-241-0113

www.peachtree-online.com

Updated 7/8/20

STORY SORT

Cut out these images from *Rapunzel* and put them in the right order. Use the pictures to tell the story. Glue the pictures on to a piece of paper. Write a caption for each picture.



RAPUNZEL: THE SEQUEL

Draw your own story plan for a sequel to *Rapunzel*.

