

Activity and Teacher's Guide: *Little Red Snapperhood* *A Fishy Fairy Tale*

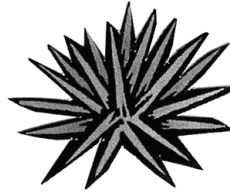
Story by Neal Gilbertsen, Illustrations by Evon Zerbetz
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Little Red Snapperhood introduces children four years and older to a new and intriguing twist on the beloved classic Little Red Riding Hood! In this version, Little Red Snapperhood has crimson cheeks with scarlet fins and must deliver fresh-baked octopi to her grandmother. She must also try to avoid the slimy wolf eel that may or may not be dangerous!



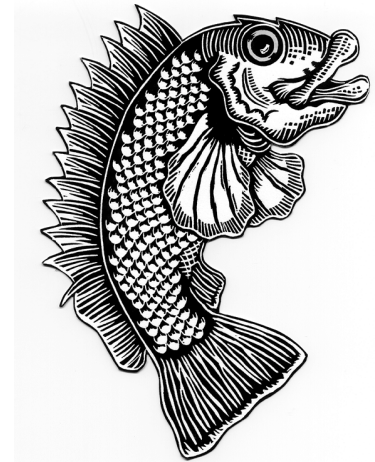
Reading/Writing/Language Arts

1. Read *Little Red Snapperhood* and answer the following questions:

- Wolf eels are really shy and retiring creatures. Do you think the wolf eel in the story was shy and retiring? Why or why not?
- How did Little Red Snapperhood feel when the eel grabbed her hood?
- What did the eel really want?
- How do you think an octopus would taste?
- What kind of topping did the wolf eel like best?

2. Can you write your own poem about a fish? Some suggestions:

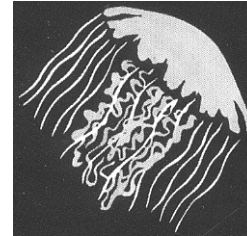
- A stout trout
- A dark shark
- A sturgeon surgeon
- A daring herring



Science and Natural History

1. What is a kelp forest? Where are they found? (Did you know that kelp is used in ice cream and lipstick?)

2. On the West Coast of North America, Yellow Eye Rockfish are called Red Snappers. On the East Coast and Gulf of Mexico, another kind of fish are called Red Snappers. Is there a difference? What is it?
3. What is the difference between a squid and an octopus? (Can you find a squid in the story?)
4. What is the difference between a fish and an eel?
5. What are the arms of an octopus or squid called?
6. What is an "oyster bed"? Do you think they would be



comfortable?

Math

1. What is a fathom?
2. How many octopuses does it take to make octopi?
3. If everyone in your class each ate one tentacle, how many octopi would it take to feed the whole class?



Geography

1. Where do wolf eels live?
2. Where do oysters live?
3. Where are kelp forests found?
4. Where do Red Snappers live?
5. Where do you think this story happened?



Art

1. Printmaking

The illustrations in this book are mainly linocuts—or linoleum block prints. Try printmaking: Wrap string around a wooden block several times. Use different sizes of string on different blocks. Put tempura paint on a tray or plate. Dip your block in the paint then press it on a sheet of paper. You can change the patterns by using bigger or smaller string and by wrapping your block in different ways.

2. Hat making

Quick method

Supplies: colored paper or newspaper, scissors, tape, decorations.

Directions: Start with paper about the size of an open sheet of newspaper. Have an adult help place the paper on top of your head. Fan the sheets in different directions. To form the crown, use your hands to gather the paper all around the head at eye level. Wrap a long piece of tape around the base of the crown to make a brow band. Reinforce with a second layer of tape. (The tape can be covered later with a strip of paper or other material.) Remove the hat and shape the brim with scissors. Decorate with sea creatures cut out from other colors of paper.
*** Leave the brim wide and round the edges to make a floppy bonnet.



*** To make a derby style, trim the brim 2 inches from the brown band.

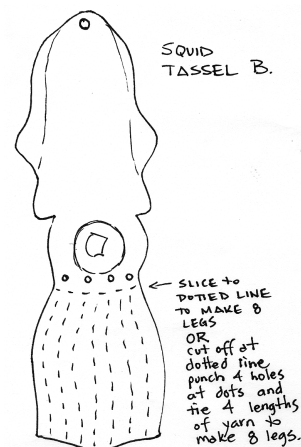
*** Make an Octopus Garden hat by adding paper flowers

Durable method

Supplies: 8 single sheets of newspaper, basin of warm water, a bowl that fits on a head to use as a mold for the hat, paint, glue, decorations

Directions: Turn the bowl upside down. Dip the newspaper sheets in warm water one at a time and press in layers over the bowl. Place the first sheet in one direction, the next crosswise, and then alternate until all 8 sheets are draped and molded over the bowl. Leave it to dry. (Some shaping such as turning the brim can occur while the hat is still wet.) When dry, the hat can be painted. To make the hat firmer and glossy, apply glue when paint is dry. Decorate the hat with sea creatures as desired.

*** Make Little Red Snapperhood's favorite hat by adding a squid tassel (Picture B) Wiggly squid tassels can be sewn to regular knit hats with yarn.



3. Sea Creature Trading Cards

Artist trading cards (ATCs) are a growing art hobby for both kids and adults. Make your own! The tiny size of ATCs makes them great for trying different mediums. Explore at least 3 different mediums.

Supplies: card stock, scissors, paints/crayons/markers

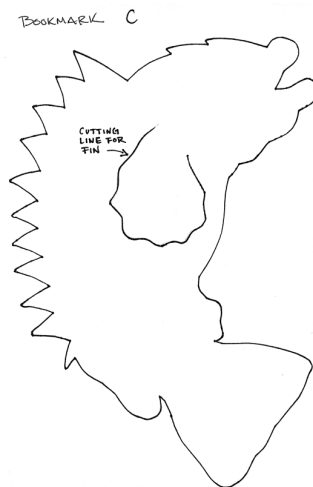
Directions: Carefully cut card stock into 2.5" x 3.5" rectangles the same size as baseball trading cards. Make pictures of sea creatures on one side of the card by drawing, painting, or making collages with tiny bits of colored paper. Put 3 interesting facts about the creatures on the back of the cards. This might take some research. Sign and date your cards.

*** Have a trading session (TS) for the purpose of trading cards with classmates. "How many sea anemones do you want for that mud shark?" Make little ATC Portfolios to hold the collections.

4. Little Red Snapperhood Bookmark

Supplies: light poster board or construction paper, scissors, glue

Directions: Enlarge template C and use to cut out a fish from the paper. Cut out a fin and attach it to the fish body by gluing the top edge only. This will make a hinge to hold the marker on the book page. OR cut carefully around the pectoral fin of the fish on three sides. Leave the top side, nearest the head, intact to make the fin a workable marker. Decorate the Red Snapper with scales, eye, and other markings as desired.



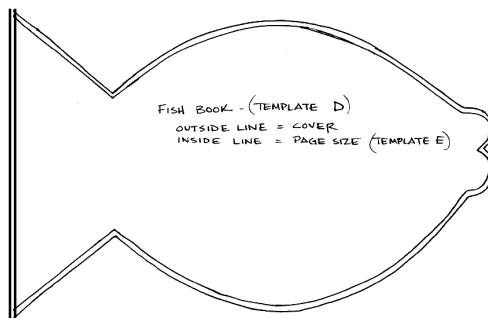
5. Fishy Books

Supplies: colored construction paper, scissors, glue, several sheets of 8.5" x 11" white paper

Directions: Enlarge template D to cut out 2 book covers from the paper. Decorate the cover with collage by tearing colored papers to make a design and glue to the covers. Add lips, eyes, scales, or spines. For the inside pages of the book, stack 8 or more pieces of paper 5.5" x 8.5" (8.5" x 11" paper cut in half.) Use template E to trace the top sheet and cut a few at a time in the interior page shape. Use a hole punch to make four evenly spaced holes _" from the edge of the tail. (See markings on template.) It is easiest to punch holes in 3 or 4 pages at a time, and use them as a guide for the next batch of papers. Stack up all the pages with one cover on top and one on the bottom. Cut or tear a strip

of paper about 1/2" wide and as long as the height of the fishtail. Wrinkle the paper a little so it can fit through the bottom hole of the book. Thread the strip of paper up through the next hole, down into the third, and up through the fourth. Pull the strip so it is even. The wrinkly paper strip holds the book together. It is easy to add more pages to this book later if you need them!

***Inside make your own fishy fairy tale, or write about a fish you caught, where you like to go fishing, or whom you like to go fishing with. Make a cookbook with your family's best fish recipes.



Other ideas

TRY THIS

Some parts of the illustrations for this book are colored pencil on black paper. Try applying colored pencils to black paper. To make the most vibrant colors try this experiment in layering colored pencils: Make a simple shape—a circle of a fish. Apply a layer of orange pencil, using the side of the pencil. Put a layer of white pencil directly over the orange. Finally, make a third layer with your first color, the orange. The mid layer of white intensifies the color and helps the color to “pop” off the black page.

MAKE A KELP FOREST

Create an ocean corner and kelp forest in your classroom. Research what types of creatures live in and above a kelp forest. Use long sheets of colored paper and paint to make a forest of kelp and sea creatures that you might find in this environment. The classroom floor is now the ocean floor. Decide at which height different sea creatures should hang based on your research.

MAKE AN OCTOPI

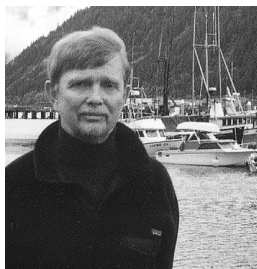
Can you find or make up a recipe for octopi?

Make another kind of pie, and make it look like an octopi?

(Suggestion: bananas could be used for tentacles.)



About the author



Neal Gilbertsen is a Ketchikan commercial fisherman and “fish poet” who owns and operates the purse seine vessel *F/V Lehua Rose*. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Oregon. He has published several academic papers dealing with fisheries issues and has contributed chapters to edited texts on resource policy. He is a former fisheries researcher and consultant, and former professor of political science at Idaho State University, the University of Alaska Southeast, Lake Superior State University, and Lewis and Clark College. This is his first book for children.

About the illustrator

Art and animal lovers collect Evon Zerbetz's work across the country and abroad. Evon illustrated *Lucky Hares and Itchy Bears* and the award-winning *Blueberry Shoe*. Evon has been awarded two “1% for Art” commissions and studied art at Bezalel Art University in Jerusalem, at Bells Arts in San Miguel, Mexico, and at the University of Alaska Southeast. Evon's work dances from science to whimsy, from the deep forest to the deep sea. She carves her observations of her beautiful surroundings in Ketchikan, Alaska, into hand-cut linocuts and then hand prints these on her etching press. She also illustrated *Whale Mail* and *Aleutian Sparrow* by Newbery Award winning author Karen Hesse.

