



THE WHIPPING BOY

BY SID FLEISCHMAN

STORY SYNOPSIS
A spoiled Prince and a street-wise urchin outwit zany villains and discover true friendship.

GRADES: 4-6 JH
RUNNING TIME: Part I: 19:35
Part II: 18:21

OBJECTIVES

1. Sheer enjoyment.
2. Reading motivation. This presentation may be used to motivate children to read THE WHIPPING BOY. It also may be used to introduce the genre of historical fiction.
3. Critical thinking and listening. The Student Follow-up may be used as a basis to discuss or write answers to questions on the recall, synthesis, or evaluative levels of the taxonomy.
4. Motivation for creative writing.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION & ACTIVITIES

Before the filmstrip:

Talk about the title THE WHIPPING BOY. In olden days, some royal families really kept whipping boys who would take punishment for the misbehaving prince. What does this tell you about the royal family?

Besides exciting action, THE WHIPPING BOY has marvelous characters. In the story the two main characters, Jemmy and Prince Brat, do some mind-changing. Watch the story to see how and when their relationship changes.

After the filmstrip:

Complete the activities on The Student Follow-up. (These activities also appear on the screen.) They include:

I. THINKING ABOUT THE STORY

If THE WHIPPING BOY were a TV Special, which part would you like to play?

II. FIGURES OF SPEECH

Identifying comparisons: Jemmy was a thoroughbred of the streets, dressed up in duds that would shame a peacock, rough as a sackful of nails.

Creating figures of speech: The whip stung like...Hold Your Nose Billy's beard was...The rats in the sewer...

III. CREATIVE WRITING

Now they're going to make Part II of the TV Special which begins ten years later. Tell what happened to your character during those ten years and what his life is like now.

■ CREATIVE WRITING/CHARACTER ANALYSIS

1. Although Prince Brat and Jemmy are the main characters in the book, there were other characters who played an important role in this story such as:

Hold Your Nose Billy	Betsy
Ol' Johnny Tosher	King
Captain Nips	Peckwit
Cutwater	Petunia

Make up riddles about these characters and see if your friends can guess who you are describing. Be sure to include at least 3 important things about each character.

Example:

I wish I had gone with the boys when they ran away.

I was so busy doing my job, I didn't pay attention to the important things in life.

I am so glad my son finally found a friend. Who am I?

EXTENDED LEARNING

■ Introduce Sid Fleischman by showing his picture and saying he is the Newbery Award winner for **THE WHIPPING BOY**. Why do you think this book received the award?

■ Talk about **THE WHIPPING BOY** as a work of historical fiction. Which parts of the story do you suppose were based on historical facts, which parts were fiction? The class may wish to explore the genre of historical fiction in depth. (See Recommended Historical Fiction Books.)

The sound filmstrip/video Historical Fiction from LITERATURE FOR CHILDREN, SERIES 3 is also recommended. (Published by Pied Piper)

OTHER BOOKS BY SID FLEISCHMAN

McBroom and the Beanstalk
McBroom and the Big Wind
McBroom and the Great Race
McBroom Tells a Lie
McBroom Tells the Truth
McBroom the Rainmaker
McBroom's Almanac
McBroom's Ghost
McBroom's Ear
McBroom's Zoo
The Bloodhound Gang in The Case of the Secret Message
The Bloodhound Gang in The Case of the 264-Pound Burglar
By the Great Horn Spoon
The Case of Princess Tomorrow
The Case of the Cackling Ghost
The Case of the Flying Clock
Clancy and The Grand Rascal
The Ghost on Saturday Night
The Hey Hey Man
Humbug Mountain
Jingo Django
Kate's Secret Riddle Book
Me and the Man on the Moon-Eyed Horse
Mr. Mysterious and Company
Mr. Mysterious's Secrets of Magic
The Wooden Cat Man

RECOMMENDED HISTORICAL FICTION BOOKS

Avi	THE FIGHTING GROUND
Beatty	CHARLEY SKEDADDLE
Blos	A GATHERING OF DAYS
Brink	CADDIE WOODLAWN (Newbery)
Bulla	CHARLIE'S HOUSE
Dalgliesh	COURAGE OF SARAH NOBLE
Field	HITTY, HER FIRST HUNDRED YEARS (Newbery)
Fleischman	MR. MYSTERIOUS AND COMPANY
Fleischman	THE WHIPPING BOY
Forbes	*JOHNNY TREMAIN
Fox	THE SLAVE DANCER (Newbery)
Haugaard	A BOY'S WILL
Holling	TREE IN THE TRAIL
Hunt	ACROSS FIVE APRILS
O'Dell	ISLAND OF THE BLUE DOLPHINS
O'Dell	THE WHIPPING BOY
Speare	SIGN OF THE BEAVER (Newbery Honor)
Speare	*THE WITCH OF BLACKBIRD POND
Taylor	ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY
Uchida	JOURNEY TO TOPAZ
Wilder	LITTLE HOUSE IN THE BIG WOODS

Grades 4 to 8

* For more capable readers

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THE SID FLEISCHMAN SPECIAL

This enticing trio includes **McBROOM'S GHOST** (22 min.), **MEET SID FLEISCHMAN, THE NEWBERY AUTHOR** (22 min., available in video and filmstrip formats), and the Newbery winner, **THE WHIPPING BOY** (24 min.) Video and filmstrip formats. Filmstrips available for preview.

Name _____

Date _____

WHIPPING BOY Follow-up

I. THINKING ABOUT THE STORY

Directions: Use a complete sentence to answer the questions.

1. If THE WHIPPING BOY were a TV Special, which part would you like to play? Explain why. _____

2. Which qualities of Prince Brat would make him a good friend? Which qualities would you like to change? _____

3. Jemmy had several chances to ditch Prince Brat. Why didn't he? _____

II. FIGURES OF SPEECH

Sid Fleischman is a master of "figures of speech," comparing two ordinary things to make a vivid word picture.

Directions: Identify the comparisons for questions 1-3. Create your own comparisons for 4-6.

Sample: Brambles reached out like cat claws.

Brambles are compared to cat claws

1. Jemmy was a thoroughbred of the streets.

_____ is compared to _____

2. dressed up in duds that would shame a peacock

_____ are compared to _____

3. (Jemmy was) rough as a sackful of nails

_____ is compared to _____

4. The whip stung like _____

5. Hold Your Nose Billy's beard _____

6. The rats in the sewer _____

(Feel free to create several comparisons of your own.)

III. CREATIVE WRITING

In THE WHIPPING BOY TV Special, you chose a character to play. Now they're going to make Part II which begins ten years later. On a separate paper tell what happened to your character during those ten years and what his life is like now.

SID FLEISCHMAN



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sid Fleischman was fascinated with magic tricks as a child and taught himself to be a professional magician by the time he was 15. He published his first book at 17, magic tricks he had invented. During World War II, when he served on a destroyer in the Far East, he began writing magazine stories. After the war, he was a newspaper reporter for a while, and then turned to novels and screenplays.

His first children's book, MR. MYSTERIOUS AND COMPANY, was written for his own children with no thought of publication. "But, it was so much fun," says Sid Fleischman, "that I went on." He has since written some 30 children's books which have been translated into eleven languages.

Today Sid Fleischman lives in California near the ocean as he has done most of his life, writing films and books for young people.