



Rapunzel's Perspective

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3, RL.K.9, RL.1.3, RL.1.9, RL2.3, RL.2.6, RL.3.6, RL.4.3, RL.4.6, RL.5.3 and RL.5.6

Kids enjoy a twist on a familiar story. For this prompt, the students write in 1st person as if they are Rapunzel. They share what life is really like with 70 feet long hair and being stuck in a tower. Children are certainly free to write from the perspective of the parents, the witch or the prince. For the sake of this lesson, I'm focusing on Rapunzel.

NOW FOR THE LESSON!

1. Tell the storyline: *"You're going to write in 1st person as if you are Rapunzel. You're going to share details about what life is like with 70 feet of hair and also what life is like stuck in a tower."*
2. Read the story, *Rapunzel*, to your students or watch this [video](#). Explain to them that Rapunzel is an herb, a plant with leaves like lettuce or spinach and has roots like a radish. You can show them this [picture](#).
3. Have the students brainstorm information gathered from the text:
 - Rapunzel is named after an herb
 - Her mom craved the herb during pregnancy
 - Her dad stole the herb from a witch's garden
 - The witch caught him
 - He was allowed to take all the Rapunzel he wanted and had to give the baby to the witch
 - The witch named her Rapunzel
 - When Rapunzel was 12 the witch put her in a tower in the forest
 - Rapunzel's hair grew and she had a beautiful voice
 - A prince heard her and climbed her hair to visit her
 - The witch cut her hair and sent her to the desert
4. Have the students brainstorm daily life for Rapunzel in the tower
 - Washing, combing and braiding her hair (fun or frustrating?)
 - Being alone in the tower (good or bad?)
 - Activities in the tower (bored or creative? Singing....what else?)
5. Have the students brainstorm thoughts that Rapunzel may have had about:
 - Her name or her parents' greediness
 - The cruelty of the witch
 - Her long hair or living in the tower
 - The witch climbing her hair!
 - Meeting the prince
 - Leaving the tower



6. Show the 5 sections to the story:

- Rapunzel's Name
- Her Parents/The Witch
- Long Hair
- Time in the Tower
- The Prince

Remember: K-1st Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section,
2nd Graders 2 sentences, 3rd Graders 3 sentences and so on.

NOW TO WRITE!

Guide the students through the following steps. Remind your students to use 1st person, "I" and "my" throughout their writing. Encourage them to refer to the list of thoughts that Rapunzel could have and include them in their writing. Their words can be serious or super silly!

1. Introduce yourself and explain your name.

Hello! I am Rapunzel. Do you know anyone else named after an herb? I don't know anyone name basil, oregano or parsley, do you?! Well, my mom wanted to eat Rapunzel all day long when she was pregnant with me....

2. Second, write your thoughts about your parents and the witch.

So, my dad went looking for some. He found Rapunzel in a garden and stole it! My dad was a complete thief and paid for it terribly. The evil witch made my dad give me to her after I was born!

3. Third, write about your long hair.

I grew really long hair. It was so heavy. It took me 24 hours, an entire day, just to wash it. The first time I tried to braid it, I got all tangled up....

4. Fourth, write about your time in the tower. Think creatively. Anything can happen!

Now, the tower, was a blast! I wasn't bored at all. I just wanted the witch to feel bad, so I told her I was lonely and bored. Actually, birds would bring me flowers. I would use the petals to paint murals...

OR, there were tiny fairies in the cracks of the walls. They would come out at night and play games with me....

5. Lastly, write about meeting the prince and your escape.

Then, one day, I heard a deep voice. I looked out the window and...

6. Have your students complete the Rapunzel art accent below!

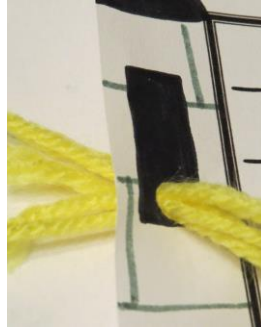
Rapunzel's Braided Art Accent



1. First, color in two black triangles at the top left and right corner of the paper as well as two tall black rectangles that represent the windows.
2. Next, use a gray marker to draw horizontal parallel lines down each tower. Then, draw vertical lines to show the bricks. Try to stagger the vertical lines.



3. Third, punch a hole in one of the windows. Group 6 pieces of yellow yarn and thread them through the hole. Tape all 6 pieces of yarn to the paper.



4. Lastly, turn the paper over. Pair the 6 pieces of yarn so you have 3 sections to braid. Braid the yarn and tape it at the bottom. Add grass, flowers or bushes at the bottom of the page.

