



Fairy Tale Catalog

For this activity, kids will create an illustrated catalog of items from multicultural fairy tales you've read together.

Individual: each child creates his or her own fairy tale catalog.

Small groups: each group works collaboratively on their fairy tale catalog.

Supplies

- Pencils and art supplies: colored pencils, markers, crayons, paint.
 - Construction paper: white and colors
 - Decorative items: pom poms, glitter, gold leaf paper, sequins, buttons, etc. (optional)
 - School glue
 - Stapler
 - Hole puncher, yarn (optional)
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Get kids thinking

If you can, read a variety of fairy tales from different parts of the world. See the list of recommended books on pages 3-4 for ideas. Talk about the stories you've read together.

Many of them are full of incredible objects with magical powers like an [enchanted](#) mirror. Other objects might not be magical but they have an important role in the fairy tale — think about Little Red Riding Hood's cape!

What if there was a catalog where you could browse many of the wondrous items you've heard about in fairy tales from around the world? If kids are not familiar with catalogs, adults can show examples of print catalogs or online stores.

Tell kids that they will be creating their own illustrated catalog of fairy tale objects. They will be practicing their [descriptive writing](#) skills. Descriptive writing helps readers create a clear picture in their minds of a person, place, thing, or event. Strong descriptive writing uses one or more of the 5 senses: [sight, smell, taste, touch, or sound](#).



Fairy Tale Catalog

Let's get started

Have the kids brainstorm ideas for the objects to include in their catalogs — it could be glass slippers, golden ball, magic harp, flying carpets, or seven-league boots, or ...?

Kids can do this independently and jot down ideas on their own sheet of paper, or an adult can lead the discussion and write all the ideas on a flip chart or poster paper. Be sure to identify which fairy tale the object comes from.

Ask the kids: do you see different kinds of objects in fairy tales that come from different cultures and different parts of the world? Be sure to include some of these in your fairy tale catalog.

Writing the descriptions

The next step is to get the kids writing [vivid](#) descriptions of the objects in their catalogs.

Ask the kids to select their fairy tale objects, and to use one sheet of paper (or a half-sheet) for each object in their catalogs.

Have the kids to write down their descriptions of each object in great detail, using colorful descriptive words. Younger kids who aren't yet writing can dictate their ideas to an adult. The following questions can help spark ideas:

- What does it feel like to touch? Smooth, rough, sharp, bumpy, squishy?
- Does it have a unique smell?
- What color or colors? Does it shine or sparkle?
- What materials is it made of? Cloth, jewels, bronze, iron, stone?
- Does it make a sound when you touch it? A clang, a rustle, musical notes?
- What is your object used for? How does it work?

Next, the kids will illustrate their objects, using crayons, colored pencils, or paint. If you have decorative materials on hand (such as pom poms, glitter, gold leaf paper, sequins, or buttons), children can glue these on to create a collage.

This is a project you can keep adding to until you're ready to bind your pages together!



Fairy Tale Catalog

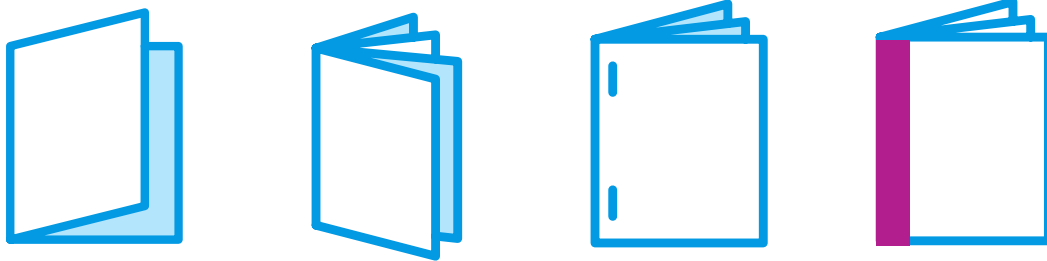
Let's get started (continued)

Assembling the catalogs

Once each child or group has finished all of their descriptive illustrated pages, it's time to add a cover and bind the pages into a booklet.

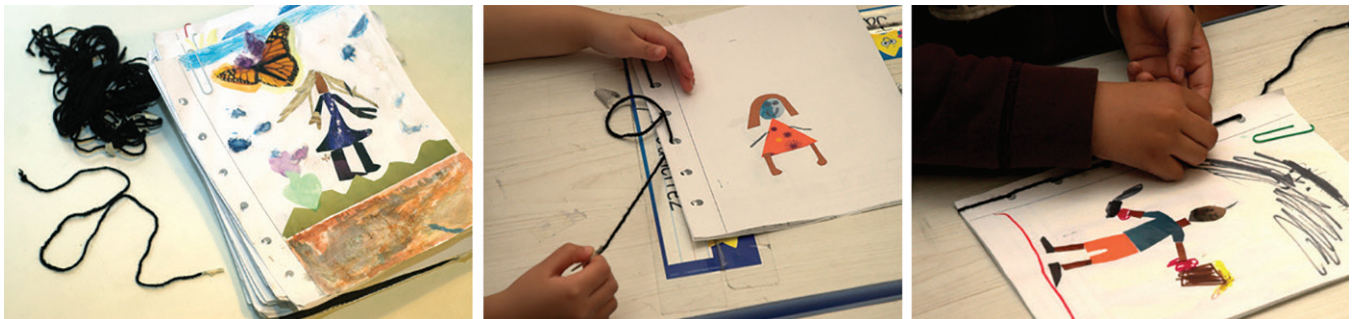
Catalog covers: Kids can create their own cover art, or use one of the decorative templates provided after page 18 in this packet.

Show the kids how to assemble their pages in the order they want and then insert the pages between the front and back cover. The simplest way to bind the catalogs is to staple along the left-hand side of the booklet.



To cover the staples, kids can place a piece of decorative tape along the stapled edge so that half of the tape is on the front of the booklet; press down on the tape, and then fold the other half of the tape towards the back and press down again.

For a fancier binding, show the kids how to punch holes through all layers of their booklets on the left-hand side. Then, demonstrate how to thread the yarn through the holes and tie it off. (Tip: roll a small piece of tape around one end of the yarn to make it easier to thread the holes.)



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Sharing our work

When the fairy tale catalogs are finished, gather the kids together in a circle and pass the booklet around. Give each child a chance to talk about their object and for the other kids to ask questions.

Try this!

That Will Cost You 10 Magic Beans: It's a catalog, so fairy tale characters might want to buy a new flying carpet or glass slipper. Have kids include in their catalogs the store where the customer can buy it (and who the store owner is) and the price for each item— 3 gold pieces, 10 magic beans, etc.

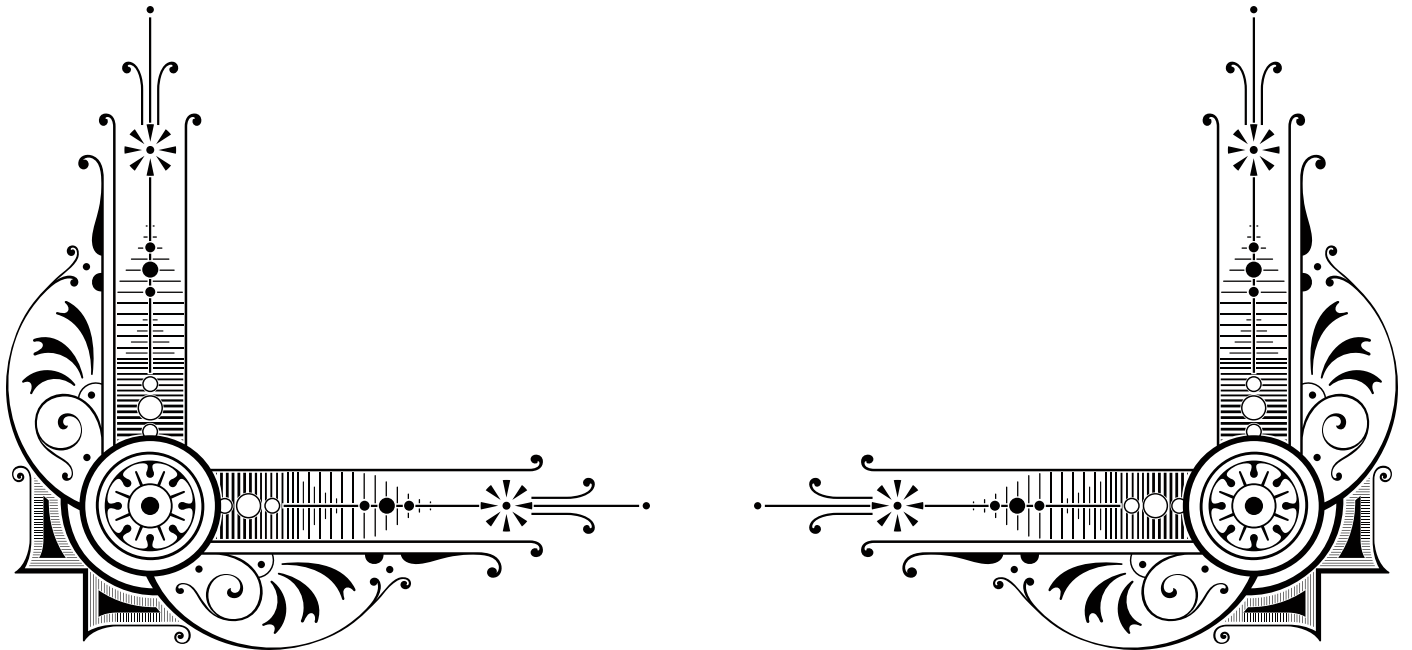
I Saw It on TV: Kids can make up television ads for the magical items they are selling and act out their sales pitch for friends and family. Older kids could work together to develop and perform episodes from The Fairy Tale Shopping Network.

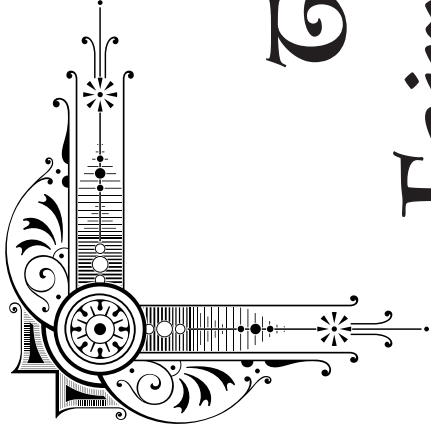
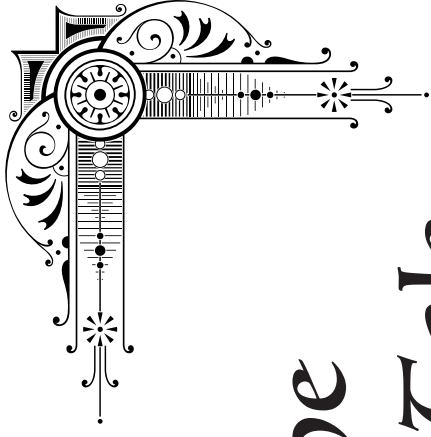




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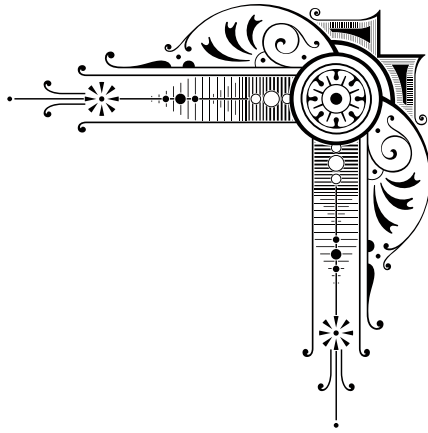
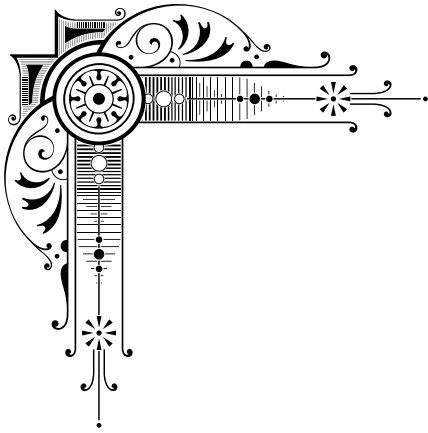
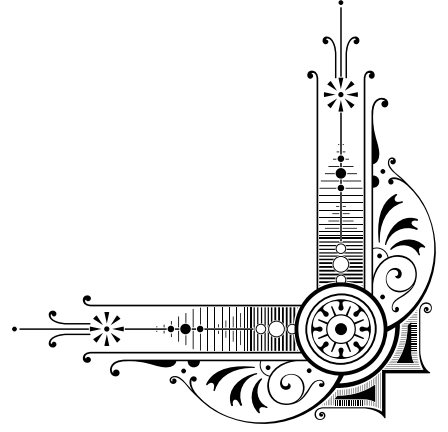
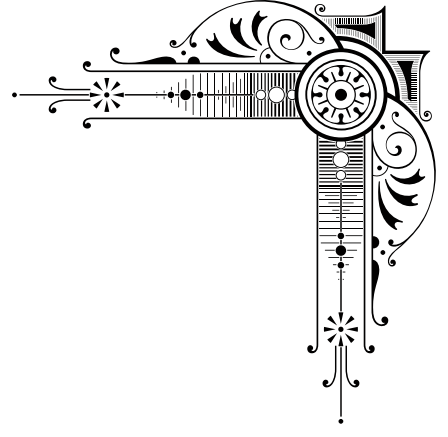
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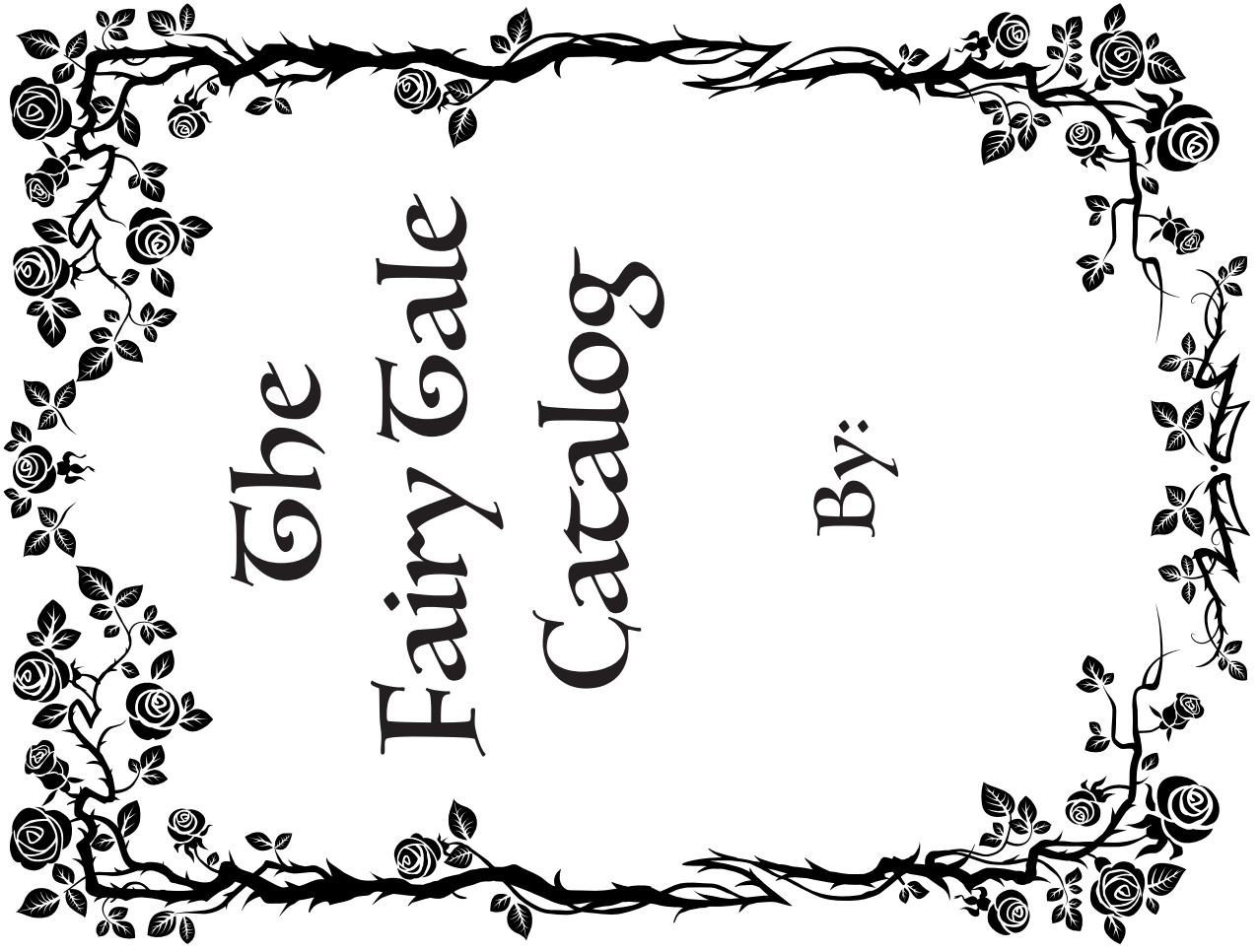
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