



Transitions Bridging Story: *The Lion Inside* by Rachel Bright and Jim Field



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7D2nASjCwU> (rap version!) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UDq3GCBkJQA> (story)

Transitions Principle: Aspirations

There is lovely message of friendship and respect in this story. It also supports children to understand about courage, when even the smallest of us can feel as strong as a lion.

Things to do and explore

- 🐾 Look at some non-fiction books and/or online resources to explore more about lions. Are they an endangered species? Look at mouse and lion habitats. How are they different? Look at maps of where they live in the world. Which of these animals lives in the most countries?
- 🐾 Mouse rhymes with house, gold rhymes with old. Can you think of other rhyming words?
- 🐾 The mouse squeaked and the lion roared. What other animal sounds can you think of? Can you act out being those animals? Perhaps your friends can try and guess which animal you are!
- 🐾 Look at the animal patterns in this story. Explore the idea of camouflage.
- 🐾 Make puppets to re-tell the story (you could use Mid mouse!)
- 🐾 Place pictures of wild animals in the art area with corresponding paint colours as a provocation.
- 🐾 Look at the facial expressions of the animals in the story. What different facial expressions can you make? Maybe you could take photographs or draw these?



Useful Words

roar, squeak, tiny, small, mini, teeny weeny, miniscule, big, huge, large, humungous...etc.

impressive, strong, confident, brave, shy, meek, friend, foe, dry, dusty, sparkle, mighty, fuzzy, scary, scarier, scariest

Questions you might ask:

- 🐭 The mouse was so small that nobody noticed him. Do you ever feel like nobody notices you? How do you make people notice you?
- 🦁 The lion thought he was tough, but was he really?
- 🐭 The mouse had to be brave to visit the lion. Can you think of a time that you had to be brave?
- 🦁 Were you surprised when the lion squeaked? What did you think he was going to do?
- 🐭 The story tells us that we all have a mouse *and* a lion inside – what do you think that means?

Other Ideas

Watch the excerpt from the Lion King stage musical. Can you dance like this? Can you use fabric, old clothes and junk materials to make dress ups or puppets? Patterned scarves are ideal (N.B limited resources during Covid-19). Maybe try painting your face? Can you make the same pattern on each side of the face? How do you think they got those puppets to move?!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U MfxhRqqbjA>



Other Resources

The Lion and the Mouse (Aesop's fables)

<https://youtu.be/MaRvIcFuIUQ>

This is a lovely version of this story without words but set to African music and animal sounds. Lots of opportunity for discussion and idea of 'the moral of the story'.

Potential Learning: Es & Os/Midlothian Pathways

Literacy:

- I can answer questions relating to a story or text. (pathway)
- I can use a variety of sources to find out information about new things. (pathway)
- I enjoy exploring events and characters in stories and other texts, sharing my thoughts in different ways. **LIT 0-19a**
- Within real and imaginary situations, I share experiences and feelings, ideas and information in a way that communicates my message. **LIT 0-26a**
- I enjoy exploring and playing with the patterns and sounds of language and can use what I learn. **LIT 0-01a**

Numeracy/Maths:

- I have had fun creating a range of symmetrical pictures and patterns using a range of media. **MNU 0-19a**

HWB:

- I can use a range of words to describe my feelings and emotions. (pathway)
- As I explore the rights to which I and others are entitled, I am able to exercise these rights appropriately and accept the responsibilities that go with them. I how respect for the rights of others. **HWB 0-09a**
- I recognise that each individual has a unique blend of abilities and needs. **HWB 0-10a**

Expressive Arts

- I have the freedom to discover and choose ways to create images and objects using a variety of materials. **EXA 0-02a**
- Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through activities within art and design. **EXA 0-05a**
- Inspired by a range of stimuli, I can express my ideas, thoughts and feelings through creative work in dance. **EXA 0-09a**