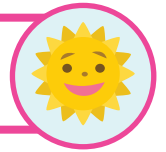




Compare & Contrast Fairy Tales



Name: _____

Date: _____

Read the two fairy tales below. What are the **similarities** between the two tales? What are the **differences**? Use the **Venn diagram** on the next page to list three similarities and three things that are different about each tale.

The Frog Prince

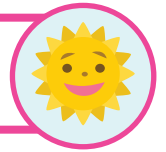
In a faraway land, a princess was enjoying the cool evening breeze outside her family's castle. She had with her a small golden ball, which she loved to play with as a way to relax. On one particular toss, she threw it so high in the air that she lost track of it, and the ball went rolling towards a spring. The ball plopped into the water and quickly sank out of sight. The princess began sobbing in despair, and wished for her toy to return to her. Then, a small frog popped out from the spring. "What's wrong beautiful princess?" asked the frog. The princess wiped away her tears and said, "My favorite golden ball is gone, and nothing I do will bring it back." The frog tried his best to comfort the princess, and assured her that he could retrieve the ball if she would grant him just one favor. "Anything! I will give you all my jewels and handfuls of gold!" exclaimed the princess. The frog explained that he had no need for riches, and only wanted a simple kiss from her in return. The thought of kissing a slimy frog made the princess shudder, but in the end she agreed, as she really loved her golden ball. Without much effort, the agile frog jumped back into the spring and located the golden ball. In a blink of an eye the frog had retrieved the ball and returned it to the princess. Keeping her word, the princess kissed the frog. Suddenly, the ground began to rumble and a haze of smoke filled the air. To the princess's surprise, the frog was really a handsome prince trapped by an evil witch's curse. Her kiss had freed the prince from a lifetime of pain and misery. The prince and princess became great friends, and eventually wed in a beautiful ceremony by the spring.

Beauty and the Beast

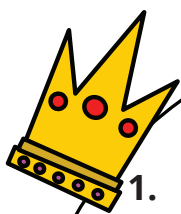
Once, long ago, a merchant on his travels stumbled upon a beautiful rose garden. Thinking that no one would miss one red rose, he cut one at its stem. Scarcely had he done so when he heard a terrible noise, and, turning round, he saw coming towards him a hideous Beast, who exclaimed in an awful tone: "Who are you, thief, who steals my roses? For this you must die!" The Merchant fell on his knees and begged for pardon, but the Beast would not listen to him. "Either you must die now, or else you must swear to send me in your stead the first living thing that meets you on your return home," he said; and the Merchant, overcome with terror, gave his promise. But to his horror and dismay, it was his daughter, Beauty, who first ran out to greet him on his return. He shook his head mournfully upon seeing her; but there was no help for it. He had promised to send the Beast the first living creature that met him on his return, so he was obliged to send Beauty herself in his place. When he left Beauty at the palace of the Beast she



Compare & Contrast Fairy Tales



found everything prepared for her comfort and convenience. A beautiful bedchamber was ready for her use; the rooms were filled with everything that she could possibly want, and in the great hall of the castle a table was set with every delicacy. And everywhere there were bowls full of red roses. Beauty was filled with astonishment at all this luxury and magnificence. "Surely the Beast does not wish to harm me," she thought, "or he would never have so ordered everything for my comfort." And she waited with a good courage for the coming of the Lord of the Castle. In the evening the beast appeared. He was certainly very terrible to look at, and Beauty trembled at the sight of the hideous monster. But she forced herself to appear brave, and, indeed, there was no cause for her alarm. The Beast was kindness itself, and so gentle and respectful in his attentions to her that Beauty soon lost all fear. She soon became very fond of him. One night, as she lay in bed, she had a dream. She dreamt that she saw the Beast dying; she had become so fond of him and so real did it seem that she woke up in an agony of dismay. Hastily rising from bed, she searched through room after room; but nowhere could she find him. At last she ran out into the garden; and there, on a plot of grass, where he and she had often sat together, she found him lying as if dead upon the ground. With a bitter cry she sank on her knees beside the poor Beast. "Oh, Beast; my dear, dear Beast!" she cried. And the tears fell down from her eyes as she spoke. Overcome with grief, she stooped down and tenderly kissed the ugly Beast. In a moment there was a sudden noise, and Beauty was startled to find that the ugly Beast had vanished. The Beast was a beast no longer, but a handsome Prince, who knelt at her feet, thanking her for having broken his enchantment. "A wicked fairy," he said, "condemned me to keep the form of a beast until a beautiful maiden should forget my ugliness and kiss me. You, by your love and tenderness, have broken the spell and released me from my horrible disguise. Now, thanks to you, I can take my proper form again." And then he begged Beauty to become his bride. So Beauty married the Prince who had been a Beast, and they lived together in the castle where they were happy ever after.



The Frog Prince

Beauty and the Beast

Both:

1.

1.

1.

2.

2.

2.

3.

3.

3.

