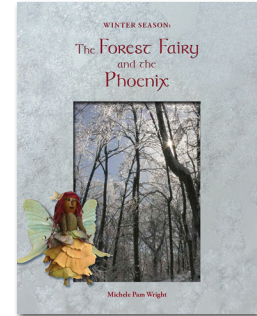


WINTER SEASON: The Forest Fairy and the Phoenix

The Story:

After a winter storm, Shayla, the forest fairy, finds her home has been transformed into a lovely world of ice and snow. She meets a magical bird, the Phoenix, and the fairy discovers they share a special bond. Sadly, the Phoenix has to leave the forest forever. Learn how Shayla finds comfort in her connection with nature and helping others.



Discussion Before Story: Winter and dealing with loss

- 1) **What do you like about winter?**
- 2) **Have you ever walked in the woods in winter?**
- 3) **Would walking in the woods comfort you if you lost a special person or pet?**

Discussion After Story: (Page references next to each question)

- 1) **Shayla says she misses the bird songs and other signs of life. Where are the animals?** (Most mammals hibernate and many birds migrate because of the cold and lack of food.) **Page 1**
- 2) **Why does Kylie the fox sleep during the day and go out at night?** (Foxes are nocturnal. Raccoons, opossums, bats, badgers, beavers, foxes, coyotes, flying squirrels, skunks, moths, and owls are some other nocturnal animals.) **Page 4**
- 3) **Why do deer eat tree bark in the winter?** (Deer eat anything they can in the winter since food is so scarce. The older deer teach the younger ones where to find food.) **Page 7**
- 4) **Why do Shayla and the Phoenix feel it is important to protect the earth?** (When people take too much of something, it can be gone forever. Everything in nature is about balance. Nature is at the center of everything we need to survive.) **Page 11**
- 5) **Why do you feel closer to some people more than others?** (You share a common interest, experience something important together, or spend a lot of time together.) **Page 11**
- 6) **Why does the Phoenix tell Shayla they will always be connected?** (When we share important or private thoughts with others, we feel a connection to them even after they're gone. Shayla and the Phoenix will always feel a connection to each other through the thoughts and emotions they shared.) **Page 13**
- 7) **How did Shayla honor her friendship with the Phoenix?** (By teaching the new Phoenix and others about protecting the earth.) **Page 15**

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