

The Lost and Found

(Grade 3 Theme 1 Selection 1 Summary)

One day at school, Wendell and Floyd were waiting outside the principal's office. They were in trouble because they had missed a math test. They said that a giant squid had trapped them in the bathroom. The boys thought they had no luck.

Mona Tudburn came to the office to look in the Lost and Found bin. She had lost her lucky hat. Mona fell in the bin and seemed to disappear! The boys decided to climb in after her.

Wendell and Floyd fell past lost toys and clothing. Mona was at the bottom. A sign pointed to the Hat Room. Floyd was worried that they would get lost.

In the Hat Room, the boys picked out lucky hats. Mona found her hat. It had been in her purse the whole time.

The children didn't know how to get back. They were lost in the Lost and Found! There were doors in all directions. Mona closed her eyes and pointed. The children went the way Mona picked.

After a long trip, the children got back to the office. Mona waited for her new friends while they talked to the principal. Then they all put on their lucky hats. The friends felt lucky together.

The Ballad of Mulan

(Grade 3 Theme 1 Selection 2 Summary)

A long time ago in China, there was a young woman named Mulan. She was upset because her father had been called to fight in a war. Mulan wanted to fight in her father's place.

Women were not allowed to be soldiers. So Mulan dressed like a man. She put on armor. She said a sad farewell to her family. Then she rode off with the troops.

It was hard work to be a soldier. Mulan missed her mother and her father. But it made Mulan happy to think that her father was safe.

Many soldiers died in the war. Mulan fought bravely. After ten years, the Emperor called Mulan to the palace. He wanted to reward Mulan's skill and leadership. Mulan asked the Emperor for a fast camel to take her home.

Mulan was happy to be back home. She changed out of her armor and into a dress. When the other soldiers came to see her, they were surprised. They had not known Mulan was a woman.

Today people still tell the story of Mulan's love for her family and her bravery in war.