

**Kids:** Lingokids.

**Lisa:** What's the whistle for?

**Speaker 1:** It's time for Story Circle.

**Speaker 2:** I love stories.

**Speaker 3:** Find your spot in the circle, everyone. Welcome, Lingokids friends. Today's Story Circle is about fairy tales, stories that have been told for hundreds and even thousands of years. Here's a big question. Why do the same fairy tales keep getting passed along?

**Speaker 4:** They're good for bedtime.

**Billy:** Fairy tales are make-believe and that's always fun. Some are scary, but then everything turns out okay.

**Speaker 3:** Maybe we can help our Lingokids friends discover the secret sauce that keeps fairy tales alive. Welcome to Stories for Kids by Lingokids, where we discover fascinating facts about the world around us and the fun of play-learning. Lingokids listeners, do you want to know the hidden truth about fairy tales?

**Kids:** Yes.

**Speaker 3:** Lingokids listeners, we'll be sharing a few fairy tales. If you hear one you don't know, ask a parent to read or tell you the story. Fairy tales are a special type of story that are hugely popular, even today. Lisa, you are right. Fairy tales often have something magical or make-believe in them, something that wouldn't happen in real life. Fairy tales often start with the same opening line. Do you know what it is?

**Kids:** Once upon a time.

**Speaker 3:** You got it. Cowy, it's true. Fairy tales can have scary parts to grab your attention. Thankfully, things usually end pretty well. Right, Billy. Some end by saying, "And they lived happily ever after."

**Billy:** I like happy endings.

**Speaker 3:** We all do, but along with the magic and suspense of a fairy tale lies something very important, a reason to tell the stories over and over. Do you know what it is?

**Kids:** No.

**Speaker 3:** A lesson.

**Billy:** You mean like the A, B, Cs?

**Speaker 3:** Not exactly. These lessons are about making good decisions, staying safe, and being healthy.

**Billy:** Really?

**Speaker 3:** Sure. I bet if we share our favorite fairy tales, we'll discover the lessons together. Who has one they like?

**Lisa:** I love Cinderella.

**Speaker 3:** Great, Lisa. Let's share what we know about the story.

**Lisa:** Well, Cinderella is a sweet girl who lives with her mean stepmother and stepsisters.

**Speaker 4:** Yes, they get to wear beautiful dresses, but Cinderella wears rags.

**Billy:** They make Cinderella stay at home to scrub the floors while they go to parties.

**Speaker 3:** That's not very nice.

**Lisa:** One day, Cinderella's fairy godmother uses her magic wand to give Cinderella a beautiful gown so she can go to a party where she meets the prince.

**Speaker:** But at midnight, the magic ends. She rushes home and loses her shoe. The prince finds it, it fits her foot, and they fall in love. They lived happily ever after.

**Speaker 3:** That's quite a magical story. What's the lesson? I think you're right, Billy. The message could be that everyone deserves to be treated well. If you aren't safe or happy, call for help.

**Speaker 2:** Huh. We don't have fairy godmothers.

**Lisa:** But we can talk to an adult.

**Speaker 3:** Exactly. Great lesson. Is there another fairy tale we can share?

**Elliot:** How about *The Three Little Pigs*?

**Speaker 3:** Oh, yes. Do we all know that one?

**Kids:** Yes. Sure. Yes.

**Speaker 3:** Start us off, Elliot.

**Elliot:** Well, there were three pig brothers. Each built a house. One made his house from straw.

**Speaker 2:** Another pig made his house from sticks.

**Lisa:** The third pig made his house out of bricks.

**Speaker 3:** Why do you think they chose different materials? Yes, Billy. Some were cheaper and faster to build with. What happened?

**Speaker 2:** A big, bad, scary wolf came and huff and puffed, and blew down the

houses made of straw and stick.

**Elliot:** The two pigs ran to the brick house.

**Speaker 2:** The big bad wolf couldn't blow it down.

**Speaker 3:** Okay then, what can we learn from this story?

**Billy:** Find the friends who live in brick houses? [laughter] Just kidding.

**Lisa:** I think the lesson is always do your best. Sometimes I shove my toys into the closet and they break.

**Elliot:** Sometimes I'm too tired to brush my teeth. I got a cavity.

**Speaker 3:** Those are real examples of what can happen when you take the easy path. Do we have time for one more fairy tale?

**Kids:** Yes.

**Speaker 3:** Let's switch things up. I'll tell you the lesson and you tell me the fairy tale. What fairy tale teaches that things are not always as they appear, that what you see is not always what you get?

**Lisa:** Oh, how about *Beauty and the Beast*? It's about a prince who had a spell put on him.

**Billy:** He turned into a beast, a monster that nobody liked.

**Speaker:** He captured a young woman, Belle, and put her in his castle, but Belle was nice to him.

**Speaker:** Her friendship broke the spell.

**Speaker 3:** Sometimes people who look different are treated like monsters. Can you think of anyone who looks different on the outside?

**Speaker 4:** Duh. We all look different.

**Lisa:** Yes, and we're all friends. What matters is what's inside.

**Speaker 3:** Treating others the way we want to be treated is important.

**Speaker 4:** So we can all live happily ever after.

**Kids:** Yay.

**Speaker 3:** Lingokids listeners, we had a great time today, sharing lessons from fairy tales. We learned that we should ask for help when we need it, always do our best, and not judge someone by how they look. Lingokids listeners, do you have a favorite fairy tale? You can draw a picture and share the lesson learned. Ask a grown-up to help take some pictures and send them to us, so we can share on our social media.

If you are ready for interactive play-learning time, explore our Lingokids app. It offers fun and educational songs and games to help kids ages two and older learn and develop important skills such as communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. That's the power of play-learning. See you in our next episode.

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