

**Minnesota Storytime
Reading Guide**

Title: *Love and Roast Chicken: A Trickster Tale from the Andes Mountains*

Author/Illustrator: Barbara Knutson

Publisher and Copyright Date: Carolrhoda Books, 2004

Connection to Minnesota: Minnesota author/illustrator, Minnesota publisher

Summary: This is a trickster tale from the Andes Mountains about a clever guinea pig who repeatedly outsmarts a fox that wants to eat him for dinner.

Suggested ages: 4-6, 7-10

Tips for Reading:

- Review the “New Words to Say” near the back of the book to learn the pronunciations and definitions of some Spanish (and a few Quechua) words and phrases. Practice saying the words aloud before reading to children.
- Read the “Author’s Note” near the back of the book to learn more about trickster tales, guinea pigs, and how the author developed the book.
- Read aloud the guinea pig’s interactions with the fox in a convincing voice, as part of emphasizing the “trickster” tale.

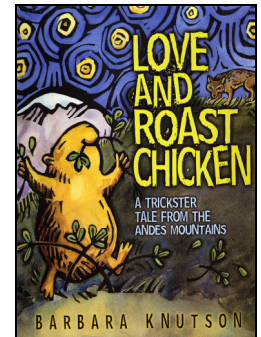
Questions before reading:

- Do you know what a trickster is?
- Do you know where the Andes Mountains are located?

To Introduce this story say: This is a story about a hungry fox who wants to eat a guinea pig for dinner. The guinea pig has to use his brains to try and trick the fox so he won’t be eaten. Let’s read the story and see what happens to the guinea pig.

Questions After Reading:

- Why did the guinea pig trick the fox?
- Can you remember the different ways that the guinea pig tricked the fox?
- Did anyone ever play a trick on you? What happened? How did you feel about it?
- Have you ever tricked someone? How did that person feel?



RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Art:**
- Draw the two main characters from the story – the guinea pig and the fox.
- Culture:**
- Using a globe or a map, locate the Andes Mountains on the west side of South America.
- Dramatization:**
- Perform the story by having some children read aloud the lines of each character and the narrator, and have other children act out what the characters are doing.
- Language:**
- Review the “New Words to Say” near the back of the book to learn the pronunciations and definitions of some Spanish (and a few Quechua) words and phrases.
 - Discuss other meanings for the term “guinea pig.” Discuss the phrase “clever like a fox.”
- Music:**
- Find and play recorded Andean music (from Ecuador, Bolivia or Peru). Your local library can help you find the music.
- Writing:**
- Write your own trickster tale using different animals as the trickster and the “tricked” animal.
- Other**
- Visit Barbara Knutson’s web site at www.barbaraknutson.com to learn more about the author/illustrator of this book. The web site also includes a comprehensive teacher’s guide on this book.
- Suggestions for English Language Learners:**
- Ask the children if they have heard other trickster tales, or other folktales, from their native countries.
 - Choose one trick in the story to ask more detailed questions that will help children understand “trickster tales.” Some examples are the fox holding up the rock and the fox asking the guinea pig to tie him up.
- Related Books:**
- ***Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti*** by Gerald McDermott (Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1972)
 - ***Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book*** by Yuyi Morales(Chronicle Books LLC, 2003)
 - ***How Rabbit Tricked Otter: And Other Cherokee Trickster Stories*** by Gayle Ross, illustrated by Murv Jacob (Parabola, 2003)
 - ***The Story of Brer Rabbit and the Wonderful Tar Baby*** collected by Joel Chandler Harris, adapted by Eric Metaxas, illustrated by Henrik Drescher (Rabbit Ears Books, 1990)
 - ***A Ring of Tricksters: Animal Tales from America, the West Indies and Africa*** by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Barry Moser (Blue Sky Press, 1997)
 - ***Sungura and Leopard: A Swahili Trickster Tale*** by Barbara Knutson (Little, Brown & Company, 1993)

