

# *Into the Wild*

## by Sarah Beth Durst

### **Lesson Plan: Sequels**

*Into the Wild* begins five hundred years after “happily ever after.” Five hundred years ago, the fairy-tale characters escaped the fairy tale to live in secret in our world. Now the fairy tale wants its characters back, and it’s up to Rapunzel’s twelve-year-old daughter to save them.

A lot of the details in *Into the Wild* (Rapunzel is a hairdresser, Gretel is on a sugar-free diet, etc.) came from asking “What happens next?” In this lesson, students will have the chance to ask “What happens next?” to create their own sequel.

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**GOAL:** Learn about how sequels are created by using a well-known fairy tale to create your own.

### **PROCEDURE:**

1. Choose a fairy tale. Make sure everyone is familiar with the plot. (Alternately, the students could work in pairs: each partnership re-reads a fairy tale and then completes the activity.)
2. Make a list of all the characters in the story.
3. Brainstorm as a group: for each character on your list, ask “what happens next.”
4. Generate 3 ideas (minimum) per character.
5. Students should each select one idea for one character and write independently. Their scenes should begin with: “The next morning...”

**EVALUATE:** Students share their stories.