Trickster Tales
Curriculum Materials Center
Cheng Library, William Paterson University

Tricksters are crafty characters who often place themselves in difficult situations and then have to find a way out. Here is a list of trickster tales for the K-6 classroom.

Teacher Resources:

   Call Number: Curr.Mats. GR45 .K73  1998

   Call Number: Curr.Mats. GR46 .M33  1993

   Call Number: Curr.Mats. GR69 .S53  1996

Juvenile Literature:

   Relates how a young man named Kojo finally gets the better of the tricky Anansi.
   Call Number: j 398.2 Aar

   This book contains stories about the trickster Pedro Malasartes and other tales from the rain forest peoples.
   Call Number: j 398.2 Alm

   Coyote is the trickster featured in each of these Aztec interpretations of Aesop’s fables.
   Call Number: j 398.2 Bie

Pedro, a kindred spirit to trickster Brer Rabbit, uses his wits to get the better of the rich and powerful characters he meets.

**Call Number:** j 398.2 Bru


Iktomi, a Plains Indian trickster, attempts to defeat a boulder with the assistance of some bats.

**Call Number:** j 398.2 Gob


Three tales recount the disappearance and return of the Pacific salmon, the activities of an Indian trickster, and life, death, and the spirit world.

**Call Number:** j 398.2 Har


A collection of short tales of Brer Rabbit’s exploits in the forest tricking all of the animals to give him what he wants.

**Call Number:** j 398.2 Les


In trying to determine which of his six sons to reward for saving his life, Anansi the Spider, a trickster, is responsible for placing the moon in the sky.

**Call Number:** j 398.2 McD


Raven feels sorry for those who must live in darkness, he finds out that Sky Chief has hidden light and tricks him into giving it back to the world.

**Call Number:** j 398.2 McD


As Senor Calavera prepares for Grandmas Beetle’s birthday he finds an alphabetical assortment of unusual presents, but with the help of trickster Zelmiro the Ghost, he finds the best gift of all.

**Call Number:** P J Mor
A collection of trickster tales from the American South, featuring such female animal characters as Molly Cottontail and Miz Goose.
**Call Number: j 398.2 San**

A chronologically arranged collection of more than forty Jewish folktales includes the trickster tales *Juha’s nail* and *What his father did.*
**Call Number: j 398.2 Obr**

A collection of African folktales in the storytelling tradition includes tales about the trickster Anansi, who is also sometimes referred to as Grandfather Spider.
**Call Number: J Was**

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