

Literature/Activities from Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia:

Books for Younger Children, ages 4-10

BULGARIA

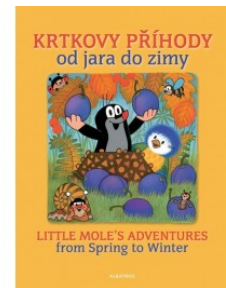
Folk Tales & Fables from Bulgaria by Roberta Moretti, Editor. Translated by Diana Nikolova. Sofia: Via Lettera, 2016.

This collection contains thirty of the most famous and loved Bulgarian folk tales and fables. Embark on a journey into the wonderful world of Bulgarian folklore, inhabited by brave men fighting dragons and monsters, charming maidens finding their prince, magical life-giving water saving heroes, and good-hearted people winning over evil forces.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Little Mole's Adventures from Spring to Winter / Bilingual English - Czech Book by Zdenek Miler. Published by Zdenek Miler, Katerina Miler, 2011.

Czech/English stories about Mole and his adventures helping a little bird, saving flowers, making jam, and playing in snow. Little Mole or "Krték" is a popular animated character created by Czech animator Zdenek Miller.



CROATIA

Croatian Tales of Long Ago by Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić. Illustrated by Vladimir Kirin. Translated by F.S. Copeland. London, George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., 1924 (first published). Reprint, Forgotten Books, 2018.

Enter a world of mysterious woods, towering mountains, cloaks of dazzling gold and doting grandfathers. Heroes face the darker realities of life, and yet conquer and win the day. Also available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/croatian-tales-of-long-ago/oclc/923996167&referer=brief_results

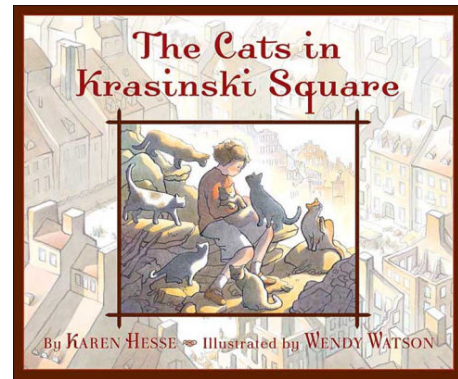
The Brave Adventures of Lapitch by Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić. Illustrated by Harold Benson. New York: H.Z. Walck, 1972. English version by Lorna Wood based on a translation by Theresa Mravintz and Branko Brusar.

A shoemaker's apprentice runs away from his unreasonable master and embarks on a week's adventures with an orphan girl and a dog. Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/brave-adventures-of-lapitch/oclc/394052&referer=brief_results

POLAND

The Cats in Krasinski Square by Karen Hesse. Illustrated by Wendy Watson. New York: Scholastic Press, 2004.

Newbery medalist Karen Hesse tells a harrowing, true story about life in the Warsaw Ghetto during WWII. When Hesse came upon a short article about cats outfoxing the Gestapo at the train station in Warsaw, she couldn't get the story out of her mind. The result is this stirring account of a Jewish girl's involvement in the Resistance and our passionate will to survive.



King Matt the First by Janusz Korczak. Adapted, illustrated, and translated from Polish by Itzchak Belfer. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1986.

Young Matt was just ten years old when he had to ascend the throne and become king after his father's death. When three kings declare war on his kingdom, he decides to fight them and manages to make peace using his good nature and human compassion. One of the most beloved works of 20th century literature.

Locomotive by Julian Tuwim. Illustrated by Lewitt and Him. London: Thames & Hudson Ltd, 2017.

Three beautifully illustrated classic Polish tales. Children learn what's inside each train carriage as it chugs along, how many friends and animals it takes to pull up a turnip, and what happens when birds of all kinds gather for a meeting in the woods.

Maps by Aleksandra and Daniel Mizielski, and illustrator. Somerville, MA: Big Picture Press, 2013.

One of the most famous books for children in Poland, with millions of copies sold. This book of maps features not only borders, cities, rivers, and peaks, but also places of historical and cultural interest, eminent personalities, iconic animals and plants, cultural events, and many more fascinating facts associated with every region.

Maps Activity Book by Aleksandra and Daniel Mizielski, and illustrator. UK: Big Picture Press, 2014.

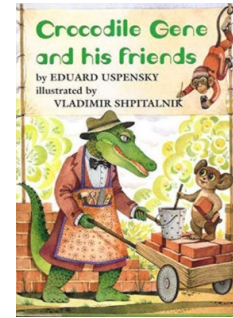
Following the best-selling *Maps*, the Mizielskis return with a companion activity book, bursting with fascinating facts and puzzles from around the world. The myriad activities challenge the reader to discover something new and explore their imagination to draw, decorate and design on every pull-out page.



RUSSIA

Crocodile Gene and his Friends by Eduard Ignatowicz Uspenski, and illustrator. New York: Knopf, 1994.

A small animal moves to the city, meets a crocodile and a young girl, and together they help others who are looking for friends. It gives a hint of what life was like in the Soviet Union (the episode of buying bricks). A true gem of Soviet literature for young kids.



Uncle Fedya, His Dog, and His Cat by Eduard Uspenski. Illustrated by Vladimir Shpitalnik. Translated by Michael Heim. New York: Knopf, 1993.

When he cannot convince his parents to let him keep the talking cat that he found, Fedya runs away from home and sets up housekeeping with the cat and a talking dog.

Malachite Casket [Box]: Tales from the Urals by Pavel Petrovich Bazhov. Moscow: Foreign Languages Pub. House, 1945 (first published). New edition, Fredonia Books, 2002.

A collection of fairy tales and folk tales of the Ural region of Russia. It is written in contemporary language and blends elements of everyday life with fantastic characters. Bazhov's stories are based on the oral lore of the miners and gold prospectors.

SERBIA

Nine Magic Pea-Hens: and other Serbian Folk Tales by Vuk Stefanović Karadžić. Translated by John Adlard. Edinburgh: Floris, 1988.

For 2nd-3rd grade students. Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/nine-magic-pea-hens-and-other-serbian-folk-tales/oclc/891408205&referer=brief_results

Serbian Fairy Tales: 1 (Myth and Legend) by Vuk Stefanović Karadžić. Translated and introduced by Jelena Ćurčić. Illustrated by Rosanna Morris. London: Flying Fish, 2013.

A collection of Serbian tales from the 19th and 20th century. Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/serbian-fairy-tales/oclc/827268664&referer=brief_results

Serbian Fairy Tales by Elodie Lawton Mijatovich, and translator. Illustrated by Sidney Stanley. New York, R.M. McBride & Com 1921. Forgotten Books, 2018 (Reprint).

Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/serbian-fairy-tales/oclc/29650433&referer=brief_results

Serbian Folk Songs, Fairy Tales and Proverbs by Maximilian August Muegge. FORGOTTEN Books, 2015.

Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/serbian-folk-songs-fairy-tales-and-proverbs/oclc/877737681&referer=brief_results

Hero Tales and Legends of the Serbians: A Collection of Serbian Folklore, Fairy Tales and Poetry, with a History of Serbian Culture by Woislav M. Petrovitch. London, G.G. Harrap & Company, 1914 (first published). Adansonia Press, 2018 (Reprint).

Commencing with an introduction of Serbia's customs and folk beliefs, we are thrust into an ancient and exotic culture with a history stretching back thousands of years. Petrovitch tells how the finest poetry of the Serbian mythos was spread. The first legend is the hero saga of Kraljevitch Marko, a Royal Prince whose adventures were numerous and gallant.

SLOVENIA

Hustle the Dragon by Kajetan Kovič. Illustrated by Jelka Reichman. Translated by Andrej Hiti Ozinger. Ljubljana: Mladinska knjiga, Rotografika, 2017.

Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/hustle-the-dragon/oclc/1016093578&referer=brief_results

Magic Muri by Kajetan Kovič. Illustrated by Jelka Reichman. Translated by Lili Potpara and Alan McConnell Duff. Ljubljana: Mladinska knjiga, Rotografika, 2017.

Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/magic-muri/oclc/1016086034&referer=brief_results

A Treasury of Slovenian Folklore: 101 Folk Tales from Slovenia by Monika Kropelj. Translated by Matjaz Schmidt. Illustrated by Zvonko Coh, Andrejka Cufer, and Milan Eric.

Tales about mythical creatures, magical beings, guardians of treasures, and heroes and figures from history. The folk tales remain true to the original narratives from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Available by interlibrary loan: <https://www.worldcat.org/title/treasury-of-slovenian-folklore-101-folk-tales-from-slovenia/oclc/733550543>

12 Slovenian Folktales = 12 Slovenskih Ljudskih Pripovedi by Dušica Kunaver and Brigita Lipovšek, compilers. Illustrated by Igor Ribic. Translated by Dusica Kunaver. Zbirka Spomincice / Imprimo; Ljubljana: Imprimo, Grafis Trade, 2012.

For elementary and junior high students. Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/12-slovenian-folktales-12-slovenskih-ljudskih-pripovedi/oclc/840008640&referer=brief_results

Sapra the Little Mouse by Svetlana Makarovič. Illustrated by Gorazd Vahen. Translated by Alan McConnell Duff. Ljubljana: Mladinska knjiga, Rotografika, 2017.

Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/sapra-the-little-mouse/oclc/1016116766&referer=brief_results

Slipper Keeper Kitty by Ela Peroci. Illustrated by Ančka Gošnik Godec. Translated by Irena Duša. Ljubljana: Mladinska knjiga, Rotografika, 2017.

Available by interlibrary loan: https://www.worldcat.org/title/slipper-keeper-kitty/oclc/1016113750&referer=brief_results

UKRAINE

Kazki na nich. Bedtime Fairy Tales. Bilingual Book in Ukrainian and English: Dual Language Stories (Ukrainian and English Edition) by Svetlana Bagdasaryan. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017.

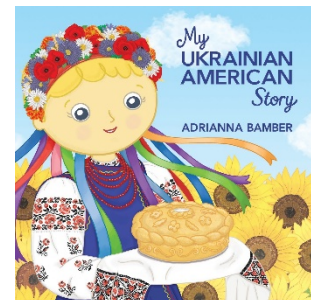
When a father must travel on business, his daughter misses his bedtime stories. When away, the father calls his daughter to read her a story. Her favorite fairy tales are collected in this book, including famous tales from Hans Christian Andersen, brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault.

Nauka u kazkah. Science in Fairy Tales. Bilingual Book in Ukrainian and English: Dual Language Picture Book for Kids (Ukrainian - English Edition) by Svetlana Bagdasaryan. Create Space Independent Publishing Platform, 2016.

A series of short fairy tales, in which children will learn that water in nature can occur in three states: liquid, solid, and vapor.

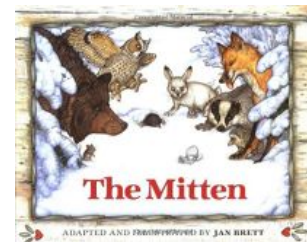
My Ukrainian American Story by Adrianna Oksana Bamber, and illustrator. San Francisco, California: A. Bamber, 2017.

Journey with the author as she shares her Ukrainian American experience. Explore a vibrant world filled with the customs, food, crafts, music and holiday traditions passed down from generations of Ukrainians. Oksana's appreciation of her culture empowers children to celebrate their heritage.



The Mitten: A Ukrainian Folktale by Jan Brett, and illustrator. New York: Putnam, 1989.

Grandmother Baba makes white mittens for Nicki. When Nicki loses one mitten, the animals find shelter inside the mitten. The bear sneezes and the animals fly out of the mitten. The mitten sails up into the air and Nicki finds it. Lovely Ukrainian folktale adapted by Jan Brett.



Ukrainian Folktales: The Collection of Folktales from the Ukraine Consists of One Book with 27 Folktales by Elena N. Grand. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017.

Immerse yourself in the magic world of Ukrainian fairy tales and culture.

OTHER

How Does a Lighthouse Work? by Roman Belyaev, and illustrator. London: B Small Publishing, Ltd., 2018.

Discover fascinating facts about lighthouses and how they work. Journey through the science and history of lighthouses around the world.

Fairy Tales of Eastern Europe by Neil Philip. Illustrated by Larry Wilkes. New York: Clarion Books, 1991.

Tales from traditional folklore of Eastern Europe. Whether the setting is a poor cottage deep in the forest, a small village, or a king's court, each story reveals a characteristic preoccupation with routines of family and community life, and a humorous perspective on people and their affairs.