

PARENT'S REVIEW

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. – Philippians 4:13 KJV



TALES FOR A LIVING EDUCATION

If we want a living education, we must always be asking: “How can I bring life to my child’s education?” Is that spark of interest there? After a single reading of *The Burgess Bird Book for Children*, it was obvious that the spark was missing. *Perhaps this book’s level is too high for my kindergartener*, I thought. So, we tried *The Tale of Jolly Robin* by Arthur Scott Bailey. “Why not read the nature story in nature?” I suggested to my older daughter who is teaching. Adeline came back with

bright eyes telling me all about the story – a narration without my asking. Success!

I observed three keys to success:

1. **The Right Tale.** Choose a tale but make it the right tale. Tales add interest to our studies. Tales can include fairy, fable, nature, Bible, history, biography, etc. When they say, “Just one more chapter,” you know you have the right tale.
2. **The Right Level.** If your child is not engaged, you might need to level-up or level-down. We are adding levels to the books on our site with a chart at the bottom of our website.
3. **Outdoors.** Reading outdoors is such a pleasant thing - especially nature stories.

You can add Tales to almost any subject, even if for a short time, to bring it to life.

TALES IN TEACHING LATIN

Charlotte Mason suggested beginning the study of Latin in Form 2 (4th grade). I agree. I believe children should have a solid foundation in English first.¹ As I looked over old fashioned texts for Latin, I liked Miss Maggie’s pick the best, **Latin for Beginners**. It is clear and student friendly (but for high school, **Henle**). Each lesson can follow a simple pattern: read-talk-write-recite.

¹ We do complete a Latin Primer in Enrichment Study 1-2.

1. **Read** a portion of the Latin lesson for about 10 minutes.
2. **Talk** about the lesson such as the key information or new words.
3. **Write** a recitation of the lesson – this is notes in question-and-answer format.
4. **Recite** today's notes and all previous notes from the term.

At the end of the term, give a test based on the recitation, because this is what your child knows. Next, we must ask, "How can we bring life to the study of Latin?"

Translate a Tale. The main objective in the study of Latin is to be able to translate. Why not, occasionally, letting your child practice translating a tale? Your main Latin text may not contain this type of exercise. *Perhaps, **Olim, Once Upon a Time, in Latin Series** could serve this purpose, I thought to myself when I saw it in a curriculum magazine, *The Rainbow Resource*. So, I asked for a review copy which they kindly offered. As I looked over their series, I thought it would, indeed, serve the purpose. Here's how I plan to use it.*

1. Read aloud the tale in English.
2. Read aloud the tale in Latin, next. (Don't worry, the Latin vocab notes are right on page's margins.)
3. In a composition notebook, translate one or two pages of the Latin story into English. (Finish story another day.)

4. Optional: Add new Latin words to the Recitation Notebook for memory work.

That's it. Which reader would your child enjoy? There are ten in the **Olim, Once Upon a Time, in Latin Series**:

- *Book 1: The Three Little Pigs, The Tortoise and the Hare, The Crow and the Picture*
- *Book 2: The Ant and the Chrysalis, The Lost Sheep, The Good Samaritan*
- *Book 3: The Feeding of the 5,000, The Lion and the Mouse*
- *Book 4: Creation*
- *Book 5: Daniel, Part 1; We Know a Tree by Its Fruit*
- *Book 6: The Prodigal Son*
- *Book 7: David and Goliath*
- *Book 8: Daniel, Part 2*
- *Book 9: Daniel, Part 3, The Miser*
- *Book 10: The Wise Man and the Foolish Man, The Ten Maidens.*

Workbook companions are available for each, but we feel the fill-in-the-blank doesn't fit our CM-style lessons, however it would be useful for other teaching styles.

Questions to Consider:

- What subject needs more life?
- Can you add a tale to that subject?
- Is there a book that might need leveled up or leveled down?
- Is translation a valuable exercise for Latin Study?

How is OLD FASHIONED EDUCATION.ORG working for your family? You can share your story or idea by contacting us.