
Lomba, Ana. *Easy French Storybook: Little Red Riding Hood.*

New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006. Includes an Audio CD. ISBN 0-07-146167-1.

With a clever ending and charming drawings, *Le Petit Chaperon Rouge* by Ana Lomba is an enjoyable retelling of the classic folktale *Little Red Riding Hood*. The story flows well because most of the vocabulary should be easily understood by students at the end of level-one French or in higher levels. The clarity and colors of the drawings add to the pleasing nature of the book.

The story is a simpler version of the original, making it easy to follow. Depending on the creativity of the teacher, a variety of activities, including skits,

role playing, miming, and singing, could be used. Also, students could create visuals to demonstrate or use their artistic skills. For example, they could draw the main characters and label them and then act out various scenes.

I feel that the translation of the text into English might be better suited at the end of the book as opposed to underneath the French text on each page. Then students could try to translate the story by themselves, or simply say what they think is happening. Their familiarity with the story, as well as their knowledge of the vocabulary and grammar, would facilitate this task and make *Little Red Riding Hood* an excellent teaching tool. Moreover, students could use the story to analyze verb tenses, a task suited to higher levels.

The CD adds to the story and provides other possible activities, such as reading along with the text, role playing, or guessing who is speaking or what is being said. The French on the CD is clear and features excellent pronunciation, accent, and intonation.

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