

Using
The Lickety-Split Princess
in the classroom

Dagny Comfort loves making up stories more than anything in the world. But one day she discovers that she has lost her gift for storytelling and with the help of her best friend, she sets out to get her imagination back. She tries to get it back in time to 'shine with a sparkling light' by winning Rosie Fryback's Original Fairy Tale Contest. But does she really need to be famous to shine with a sparkling light - or does she already know how to wrap moonbeams around her little finger?

- Although Dagny and Megan are best friends, they are different in many ways. Have students discuss these differences. Would they rather have Dagny or Megan for a best friend? Or perhaps Chris? What are some of the qualities they look for in a best friend?

- Dagny tries to come up with an ending to the fairy tale about the wizard's wife. Have the students write their own original ending to Rosie Fryback's story, perhaps along with an illustration.

- While at the Cherryland Ice Cream Parlour, Dagny, Megan and Chris decide to enter the Name Our New Ice Cream Dessert Contest. Have the class draw a picture of a scrumptious ice cream dessert and then give it a name that is a perfect match.

- Mr. Harcourt gathered all his poems together and made a Pantry of Pickled Poems. Then Dagny, Megan and Chris wrote their own poems and made a Porch of Potted Poems. Have the class write poems and brainstorm something special they could do with them. For example, their poems could be kept as a bookmark collection; or as a series of pendants; or made into birthday cards for family or friends.

- While Dagny tries to get her imagination back, Chris struggles to train Barky. Ask the class

if any of them have pets. If they were friends with Chris, what suggestions would they give him? Have them write a letter to Chris with some surefire ways to train a dog.

- Dagny and Megan are dying to get their pictures in the paper. Has anyone in class ever had their picture in the paper? Do they know any kids who have? What was the story behind the picture appearing in the paper? How did the kids feel about seeing themselves in the newspaper? What things can they imagine doing to get their picture in a newspaper?

- When Dagny and Megan ask the Great Dictionary about their future, Chris tells them that the dictionary talks in riddles sometimes. Have the class ask the dictionary about their future. What do they imagine the dictionary is trying to tell them? Do they think this is a good way to decide what their future will be? What other ways of predicting the future do they know about? Discuss whether a person's future is something to be discovered, or something to be created.

