Kelly Schmidt

**Classroom Activity**

Kindergarten - 1st

Lesson: A Hmong Cinderella

Benchmarks (taken from MN state standards, MDE):

Listen to and understand the meaning of texts representing a variety of genres (such as poetry, **folk tales**, drama, fantasy, realistic fiction, informational and biographical texts) from America, as well as **from other countries**.

Write or **draw** a response that demonstrates comprehension.

Objective:  Students will demonstrate comprehension of a story, *Jouanah*, by drawing 3 pictures in their journal.

Snappy Launch:  Ask students if they know the story of Cinderella. Ask them to tell you what they know/remember about the story. Show them the American version of the book and explain that this is our version. Go on to tell them that there are different versions of the Cinderella story that come from different countries or groups of people. Explain that today they are going to hear a Cinderella story from the Hmong culture.

Before reading, briefly explain to students the Hmong history:

Fled China because of war – show them China on a map- and many moved to mountainous regions where it was hard to live and grow food.

There was more war and many people were losing their homes and losing their family members and were not safe so they left.

Many of them came to the US and many have made their home right here in MN.

Now, read *Jouanah: A Hmong Cinderella,*a Hmong folktale which contains many of the elements of Cinderella, but, includes unique variations which reflect the Hmong culture.

Assessment: Students will draw 3 pictures in their journal, in response to teacher generated questions, which reflect what they learned from the story and Hmong culture.

For example –

Where did the Hmong people move to when they left China – and the place where Jouanah and her family lived? (Mountains)

What did Jouanah’s mother get transformed into to help the family? (Cow)

What did Jouanah lose that brought her together with the village elder’s son? (magic slipper)