

Pedagogical Tool: Inquiry Box: Identifying Instruments in Film and Text that Contribute to
Differences in Meaning

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EDUC5356: English (Teachable Subject)

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What is Included?

Resource 1.....Station One: The Lorax Book vs. Movie Activity

Resource 2.....Station Two: News Article Analysis and Action Plan

Resource 3.....Station Three: Plot Timeline

Resource 4.....Station Four: Comparison Package

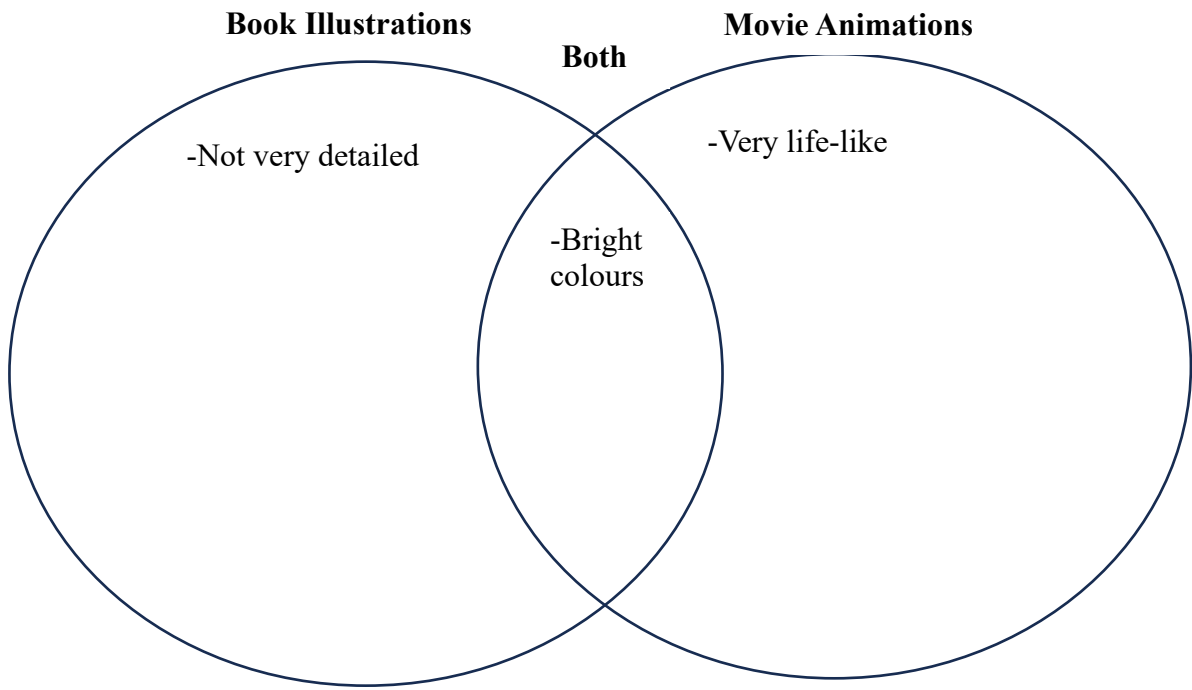
Station 1: The Lorax Book vs. Movie Activity

INSTRUCTIONS:

Look at the different illustrations that were taken directly from the 1971 “The Lorax” book and the animations taken from the 2012 “The Lorax” movie.

Your job is to create a Venn Diagram that discusses the similarities and differences regarding the different aspects of the illustrations and animations. This will be done on provided chart paper.

EXAMPLE:



IMAGES

Book Illustrations:



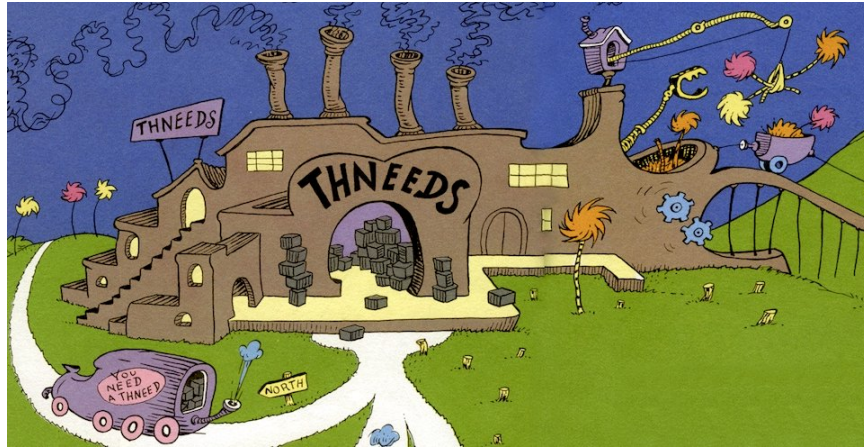
Movie Animations:



Station 2: News Article Analysis and Action Plan Instructions

1. Read the news article titled “Is There Hope For Thneedville”.
2. Answer the key questions as a group using the “Key Questions” hand-out.
3. Using all of the information you’ve gathered from the news article, come up with an action plan that will address the following:
 - a. What contributed to Thneedville’s climate crisis?
 - b. How could the Once-ler have prevented the deforestation of the Truffula-Trees?So, now that Thneedville is a wasteland, how can you regenerate it? In your action plan come up with a step-by-step process that reverses the Once-ler’s damage and results in clean natural resources, the regeneration of the forest, the return of the Lorax and the forest animals, and address how the Once-ler can create the ‘Thneed’ sustainably. You may use the markers and chart paper provided to create your action plan.

Is There Hope For Thneedville?



The once beautiful and plentiful landscapes of Thneedville have officially become a certified toxic wasteland all at the hands of the greedy and wasteful Once-ler. Due to the Once-ler's lack of efforts in preserving and sustaining the Truffula-Trees that he used to create his popular and viral invention the 'Thneed,' Thneedville has now suffered from severe deforestation, massive displacement of forest animals, and the over-pollution of natural resources such as water and air.

The Once-ler, full of ambition and creativity, came across the landscapes now known as Thneedville and discovered Truffula-Trees. Stunned by their beauty, texture, and color, he harvested them and created the 'Thneed'. It was a very versatile, popular, and in-demand product that provided the Once-ler with his success.

The Once-ler did not make an attempt to regenerate the land he was deforesting, nor did he listen to the Lorax's pleas to stop cutting down trees and polluting the natural resources. The Once-ler continued to mass produce the Thneed and in turn, did not create an action plan to sustain or regenerate the Truffula-Trees. This resulted in the forest animals being forced out of their homes, the extinction of Truffula-Trees, and the Lorax leaving Thneedville due to disappointment in the Once-ler.

The only update that the press can share at this time is that there have been whispers of the discovery of a Truffula-Tree seed. This discovery could potentially result in the regeneration of Thneedville and the return of the Lorax and the forest animals.

Key Questions

Using a lined piece of paper, answer the following questions.

1. Identify the following in the News Article:
 - a. Who
 - b. What
 - c. Where
 - d. Why
 - e. When
 - f. How

2. In your opinion, was the Once-ler justified in using the Truffula-Trees for his creation of the Thneed? Were those his resources to take? Why or why not?

3. Why do you think the Once-ler did not listen to the Lorax when he told him to stop cutting down Truffula-Trees? What did the Lorax (the advocate for the trees) realize that the Once-ler did not?

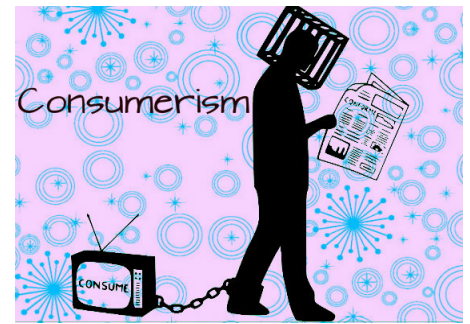
4. Why is it important to know that the Truffula-Tree seed may exist? Does that impact the Once-ler negatively or positively and why?

Station 3: Inquiry Box: Plot Timeline

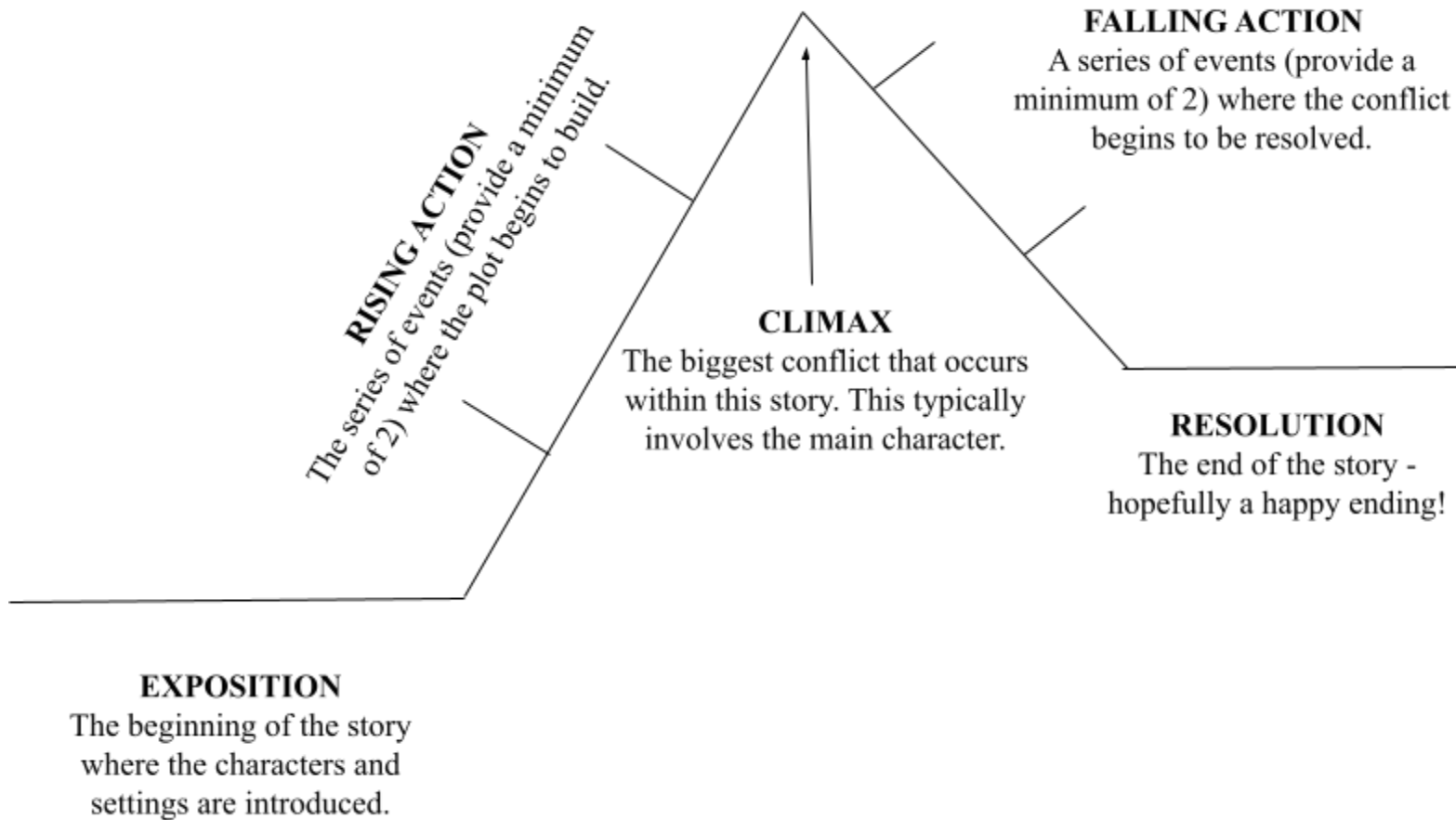
INSTRUCTIONS:

Before reading *The Lorax*, you will have the next 13 minutes to discuss and predict the series of events that happen throughout the **book** (NOT the movie). Using the following artifacts given to you, place them along the plot diagram to demonstrate the sequence of events that your group thinks happens throughout the book. Please be prepared to share your reasoning with the rest of the class.

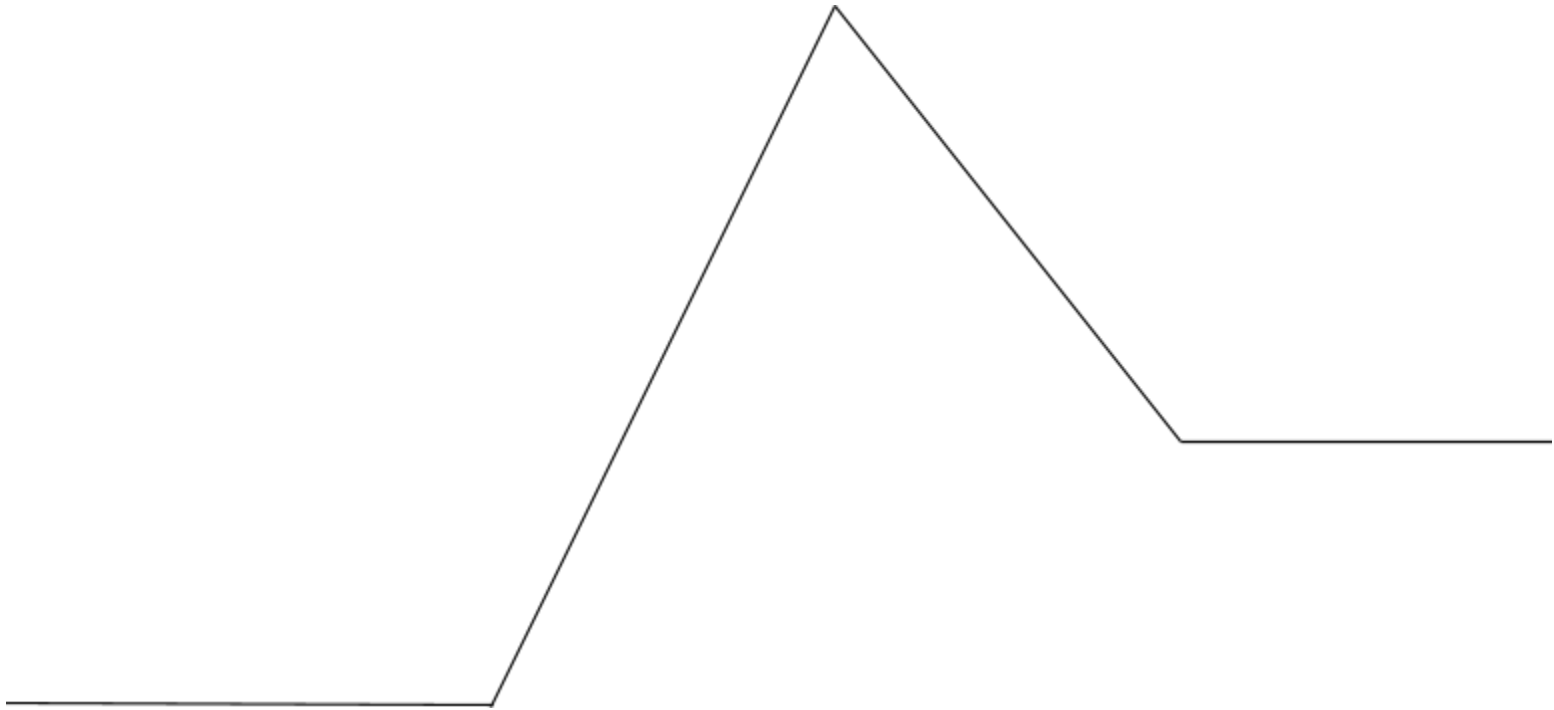
Artifacts:



Plot Diagram



Plot Diagram



Station 4

Comparison Package

Focus on the **WORDS** of the text, rather than the visuals (as much as possible)

Fill out the graphic organizer as you do each comparison as a group

Comparison #1

Book Pages 55-56
Script Excerpt

And then I got mad.
I got terribly mad.
I yelled at the Lorax, "Now listen here, Dad!
All you do is yap-yap and say 'Bad! Bad! Bad! Bad!'
Well, I have my rights, sir, and I'm telling *you*
I intend to go on doing just what I do!
And, for your information, you Lorax, I'm figgering
on biggering

and BIGGERING

and BIGGERING

and BIGGERING,

turning MORE Truffula Trees into Thneeds
which everyone, EVERYONE, *EVERYONE* needs!"



And at that very moment, we heard a loud whack!
From outside in the fields came a sickening smack
of an axe on a tree. Then we heard the tree fall.
The very last Truffula Tree of them all!

Script Excerpt

Oncler: You know what? You can just shut your mustache. My conscience is clear. I have done nothing illegal. I have my rights, and I intend to keep on biggering and biggering, and turning more Truffula trees into Thneeds. And nothing is going to stop me!

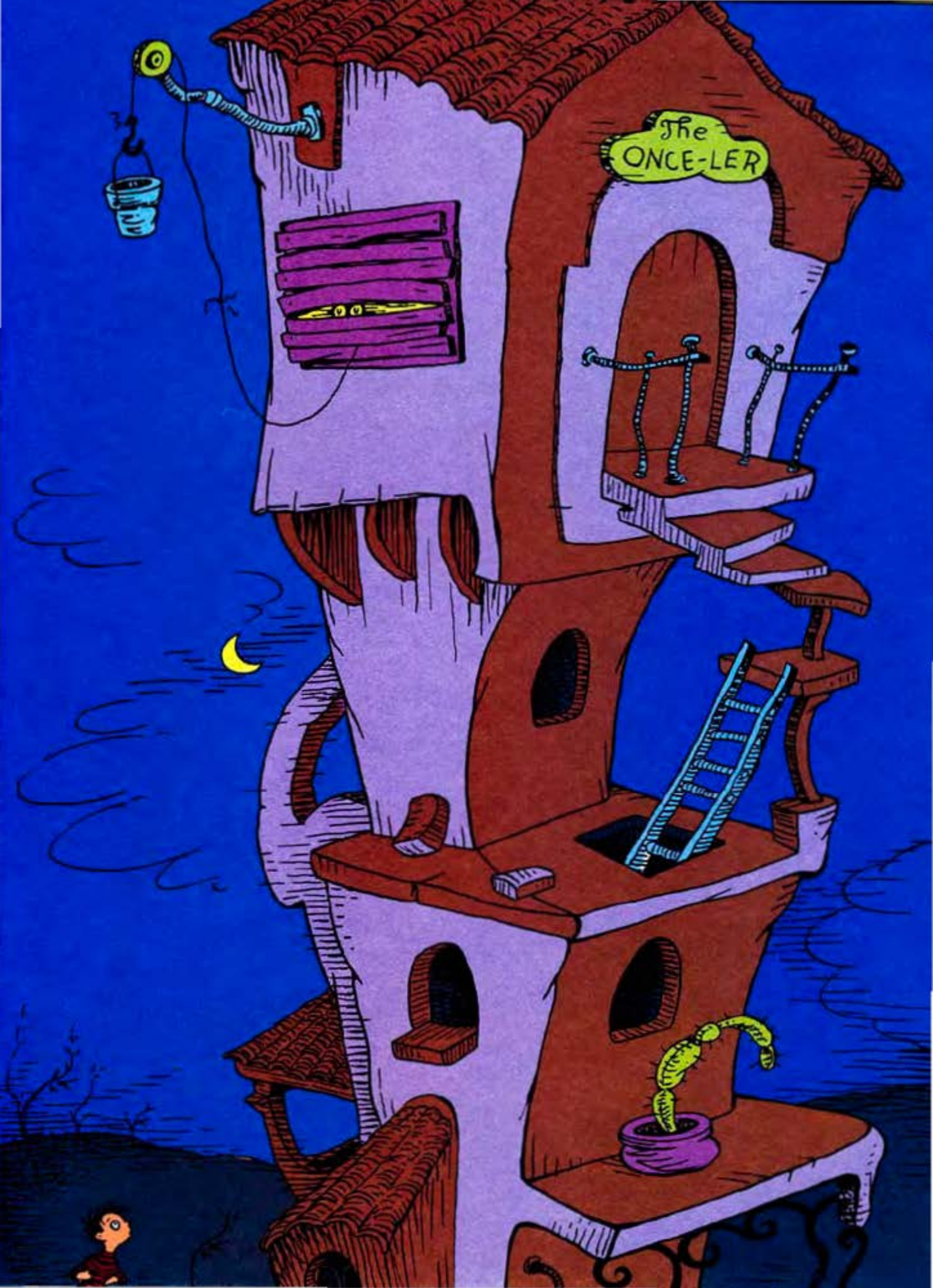
Lorax: Well, that's it. The very last one. That may stop you.

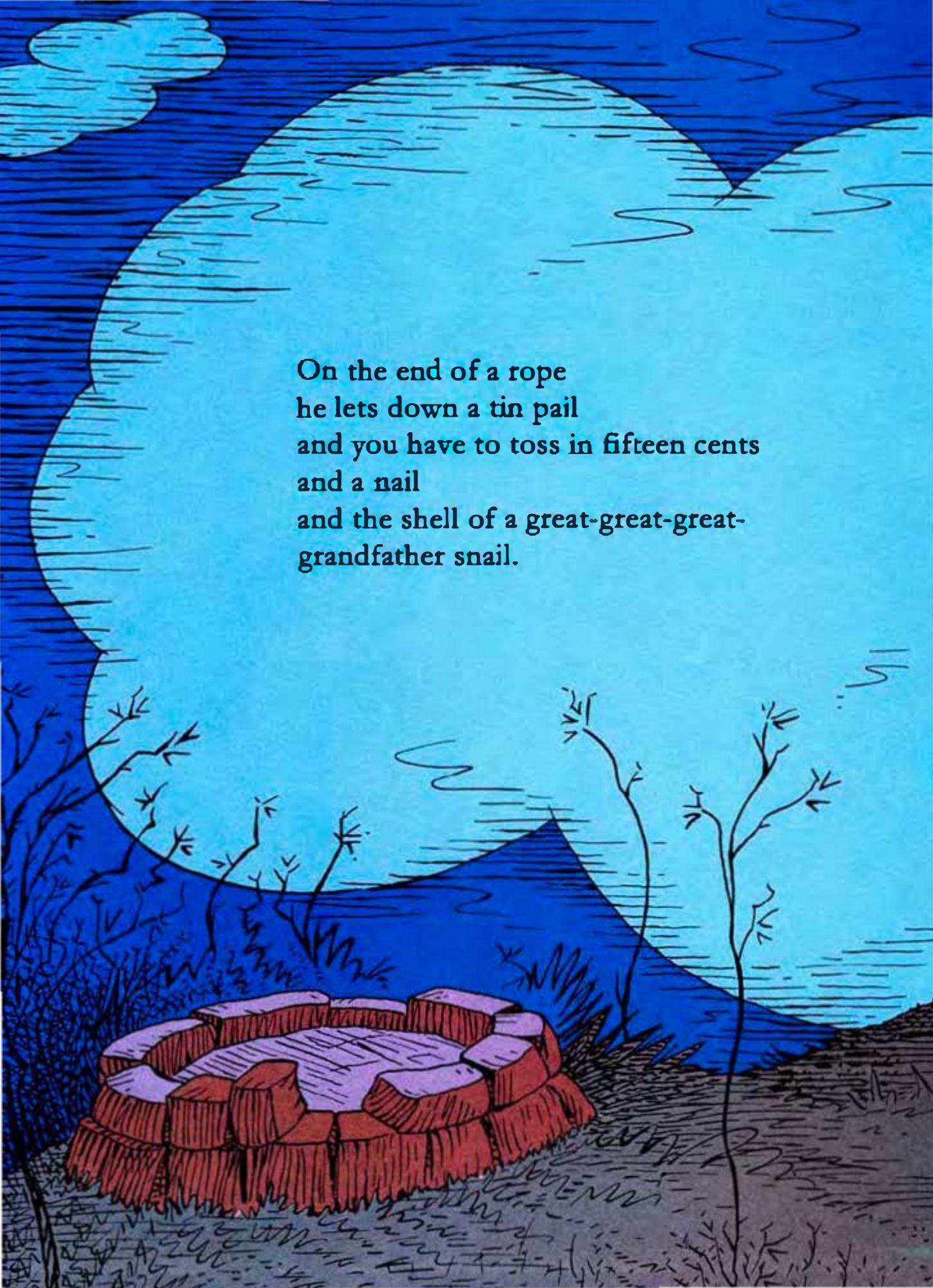
Comparison #2

Book Pages 10-12
QR Code

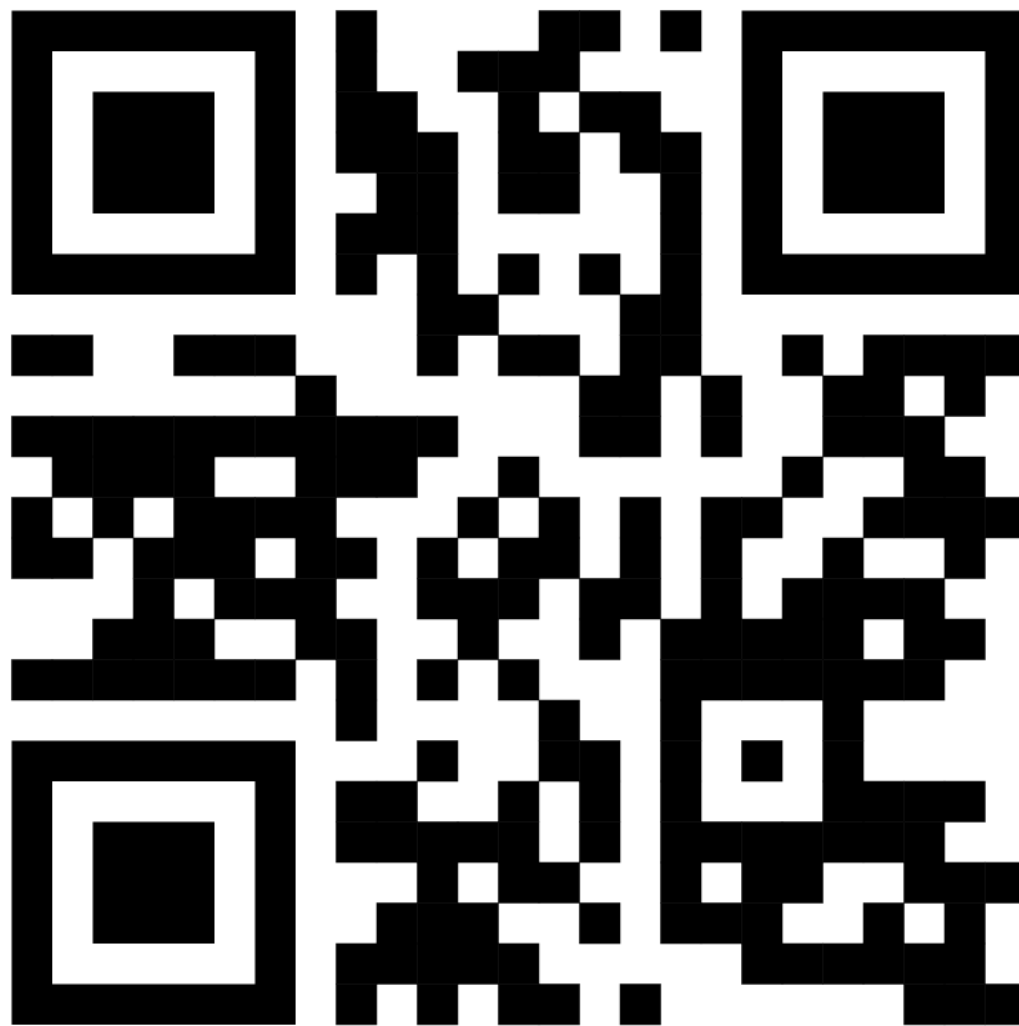
You won't see the Once-ler.
Don't knock at his door.
He stays in this Lerkim, cold under the roof,
where he makes his own clothes
out of miff-muffered moof.
And on special dank midnights in August,
he peeks
out of the shutters
and sometimes he speaks
and tells how the Lorax was lifted away.

He'll tell you, perhaps...
if you're willing to pay.



A stylized illustration of a landscape. In the foreground, there is a circular fire pit made of red bricks. The ground is brown and textured. In the middle ground, there are several thin, dark trees with sparse leaves. In the background, there is a large, bright yellow sun with a wavy, textured surface. The sky is a deep blue with horizontal lines. The overall style is simple and graphic.

On the end of a rope
he lets down a tin pail
and you have to toss in fifteen cents
and a nail
and the shell of a great-great-great-
grandfather snail.



Scan for Comparison #2!

Comparison #3

Book Pages 24-36
QR Code

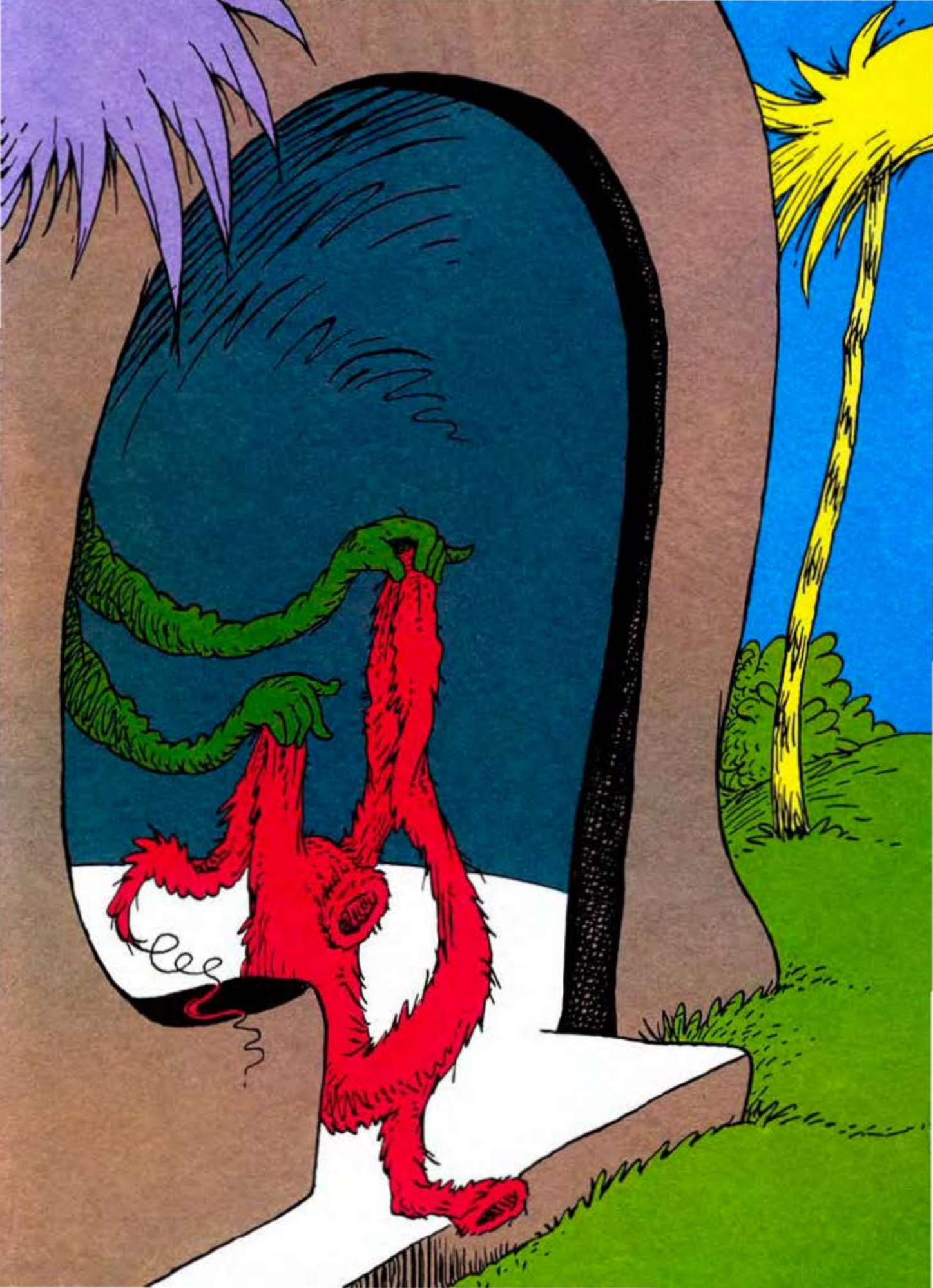


The instant I'd finished, I heard a *ga-Zump!*
I looked.

I saw something pop out of a stump
of the tree I'd chopped down. It was sort of a man.
Describe him?...That's hard. I don't know if I can.



He was shortish. And oldish.
And brownish. And mossy.
And he spoke with a voice
that was sharpish and bossy.

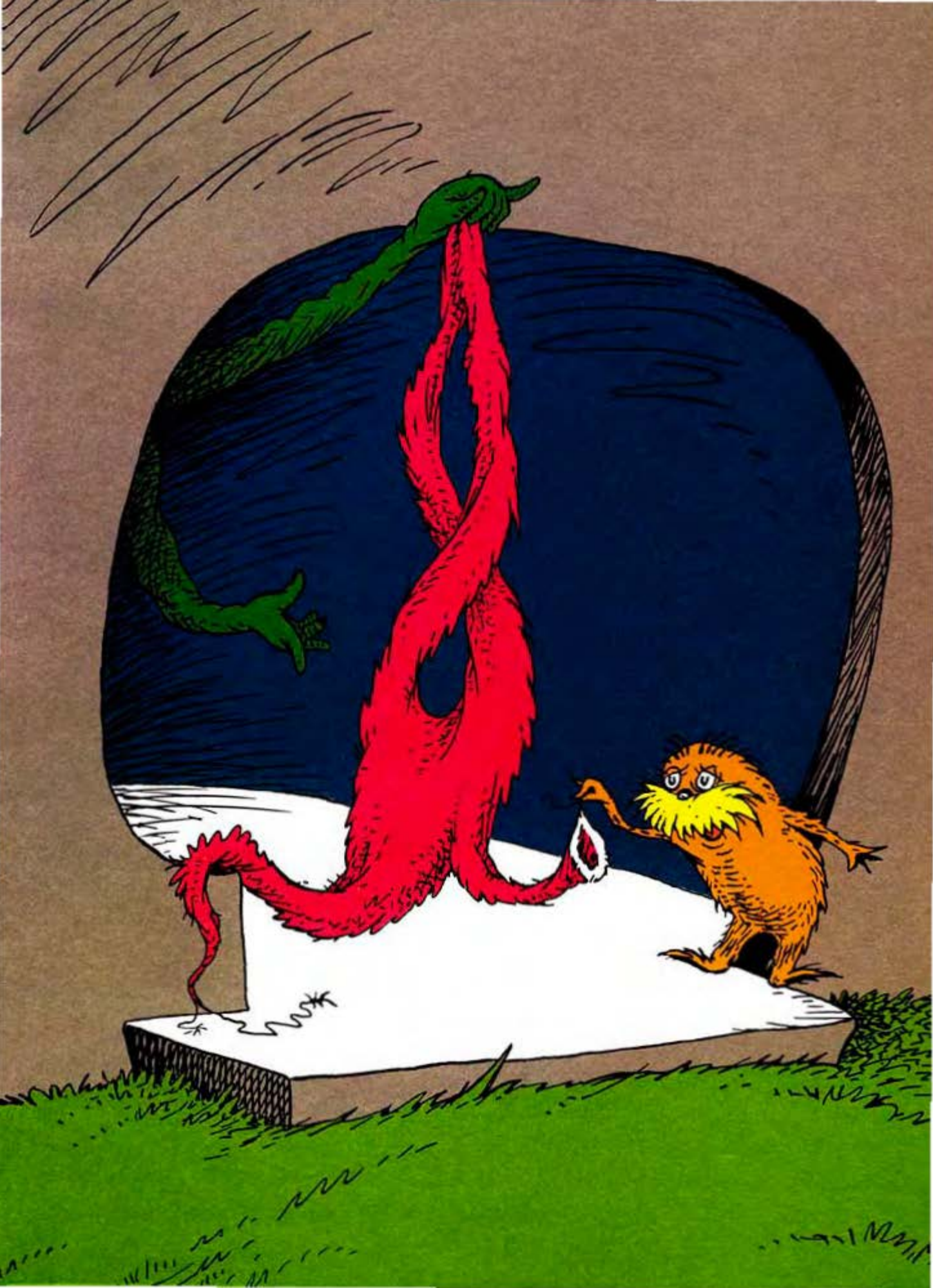


“Mister!” he said with a sawdusty sneeze,
“I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees.
I speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues.
And I’m asking you, sir, at the top of my lungs”—
he was very upset as he shouted and puffed—
“What’s that THING you’ve made out of my Truffula tuft?”



“Look, Lorax,” I said. “There’s no cause for alarm.
I chopped just one tree. I am doing no harm.
I’m being quite useful. This thing is a Thneed.
A Thneed’s a Fine-Something-That-All-People-Need!
It’s a shirt. It’s a sock. It’s a glove. It’s a hat.
But it has *other* uses. Yes, far beyond that.
You can use it for carpets. For pillows! For sheets!
Or curtains! Or covers for bicycle seats!”

The Lorax said,
“Sir! You are crazy with greed.
There is no one on earth
who would buy that fool Thneed!”





But the very next minute I proved he was wrong.
For, just at that minute, a chap came along,
and he thought that the Thneed I had knitted was great.
He happily bought it for three ninety-eight.

I laughed at the Lorax, "You poor stupid guy!
You never can tell what some people will buy."





**“I repeat,” cried the Lorax,
“I speak for the trees!”**



Scan for Comparison #3!

Focus on the words of each excerpt and brainstorm using the following questions as a guide. Fill out in **point form**.

| Comparison #1 | Comparison #2 | Comparison #3 |
|--|--|--|
| <p>What is different between the conversation in each version?</p> | <p>Who tells the legend of the Onceler in each version?</p> | <p>What is the difference between the Lorax and the Onceler's relationship in each version?</p> |
| <p>What did you like and dislike about each version?</p> | <p>What information do we learn in the video that we do not get from the book pages?</p> | <p>Based on the words alone (not the visuals), which scene is more appealing to the target audience (kids)? Why?</p> |