

# MR. FACT & Miss Opinion

This book is a lively and lyrical story about unlikely neighbors, a goat named Mr. Fact and a pig named Miss Opinion. Miss Opinion shares a flavorful meal with Mr. Fact, attempting to show him that opinions can add spice to his life. This educational children's book uses endearing characters to introduce terms such as objective and subjective by personifying fact and opinion.



## ABOUT MELISSA POLYAKOV



Melissa has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Multnomah University in Portland, OR, and is a member of SCBWI. An educator since 2012, she has taught multiple ages and subjects. However, it was working as the school librarian where her love for children's literature grew. During her free time, Melissa and her husband enjoy playing volleyball and exploring the outdoors with their beloved Goldendoodle.

## BEFORE READING

- Introduce the terms *Fact* and *Opinion*. Ask students what they know about these words.
- Without clarifying what the terms mean, read the book *Mr. Fact and Miss Opinion*.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Ask the students the following questions and allow for discussion.
  1. Why was Mr Fact's name, Mr. Fact? (*Mr. Fact would only say facts, things that are true.*)
  2. Why was Miss Opinion's name, Miss Opinion? (*Miss Opinion would say her opinions, what she thought and felt.*)
  3. What is something Mr. Fact said that was a fact? (*Look through the book with the students until you find one. This can continue as you look for multiple facts he says.*)
  4. What is something Miss Opinion said that was an opinion? (*Look through the book with the students until you find one. This can continue as you look for multiple opinions she says.*)
  5. How did Miss Opinion's food help Mr. Fact learn how to give his opinion? (*The food tasted so good that he had to say how it made him feel and what he thought about how it tasted.*)

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## CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

- Continue the discussion about fact and opinion. Say the following sentences and ask students which one they think is a fact and which one they think is an opinion.

*Fish breathe under water. Fish are ugly.*

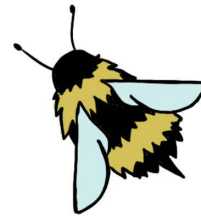
- Discuss with the students why one sentence is a fact and the other is an opinion.  
*The sentence, "fish breathe under water" is a fact because it is a true statement. It is not what someone thinks or feels. The sentence, "fish are ugly" is an opinion because it can be true or not true. One person could think fish are cute while another person thinks fish are ugly.*
- Write these definitions for the students to see (either on a whiteboard or a flipchart).

**Fact** -- something known to be true; reality

**Opinion** -- something someone thinks or feels

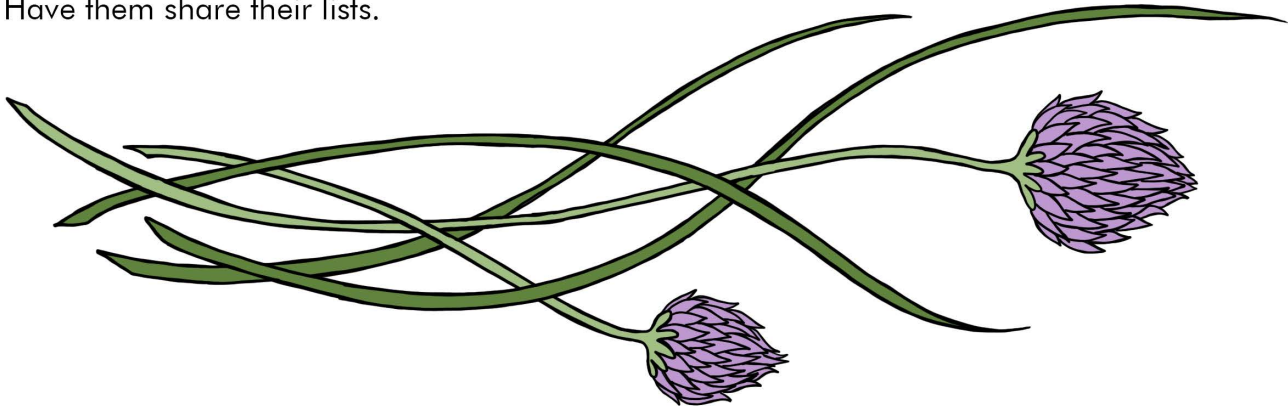
We can also say that if something is a fact, it is objective. If something is an opinion, it is subjective.

- \**Teacher Note*\* -- It can be helpful to say that people have opinions and we can think of a person as a subject. A person who says their opinion is being **subjective**. Facts are "what is" and opinion is "what we THINK about what is".



## ACTIVITY

- To assess understanding, put a simple object on a desk -- something large that everyone can see. Have them take a piece of paper and draw a line down the middle with the header "fact" and "opinion" at the top of each column. Have students write down the "facts" about that object (color, label, descriptive words). Then have them write down "opinion" words (what do they THINK about that object? Like it? Dislike it? Why?)
- Have them share their lists.



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## COMMON CORE CONNECTION

Through this lesson, the following standards are addressed:

### 1st Grade:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.1

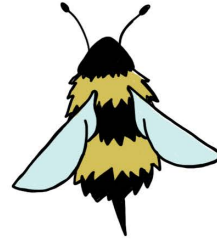
Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.4

Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.7

Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.



### 2nd Grade:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.6

Acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including by speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud.

### Potential C.C. Standards For Other Lessons

*Mr. Fact and Miss Opinion can also be used to help reach the following standards:*

### 1st Grade:

**ELA Speaking & Listening > Grade 1 > Comprehension and Collaboration Standards** - all standards can be taught through the use of Mr. Fact and Miss Opinion.

### 2nd Grade:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.4

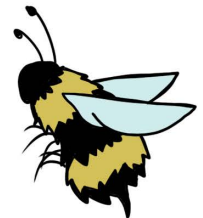
Describe how words and phrases (e.g., regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.5

Describe the overall structure of a story, including describing how the beginning introduces the story and the ending concludes the action.

\*Standards are copied and pasted from:

<http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/introduction-for-k-5/>



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