Activity: Synthesizing with The Three Pigs!

Purpose: To demonstrate how viewing something from a different perspective can change your thinking.

1. Read a traditional version of The Three Pigs.
2. Ask students to retell the story focusing on the characters, setting, problem, events and resolution.
3. Explain to students that there are many versions of The Three Pigs and that each version is written a little differently.
4. Read 2 or 3 versions of The Three Pigs aloud. Remind students that it is their job to pay close attention to the similarities and differences between the books.
   - The Three Pigs, by David Wiesner
   - The True Story of The 3 Little Pigs, by Jon Scieszka
   - The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig, by Eugene Trivizas
   - Your favorite version
5. After reading each version, ask students how the author changed the story of The Three Little Pigs.
   - From whose perspective is the story being told?
   - How does the perspective change the story?
   - What important ideas and themes run through each version of The Three Pigs?
   - Did your thinking change while we were reading these different stories of The Three Pigs?
   - How would you re-create the story of The Three Little Pigs?
     a. You might want to use the Creating a Play Into the Book synthesizing lesson plan and have your students create their own version of The Three Pigs.
   - Brainstorm situations in which someone’s thinking might change in this way, for example:
     a. Kamilah seeing Casey at the Bat through the eyes of others.
     b. A child seeing through the eyes of a grownup or vice versa.
6. Explain to students that the change in their thinking that occurs when they see something from a different perspective is a form of synthesizing.