



## The Big, Bad Wolf Meets the Blooms

A CHORAL READING TO REVIEW BLOOM'S TAXONOMY

BY NANCY MCMUNN, ADAPTED FROM BARBARA HISE'S CHORAL READING

**Characters:**   **LENNY:** (Wolf's psychologist-wearing glasses)  
                  **Wolf:** (Wolf ears)  
                  **The Blooms:** Recall, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, and Evaluation  
                  **The Chorus:** Rest of the participants; everyone gets a part

**The play opens with the Wolf seated center front, alone with his head in his hands. The chorus can be seated in a semi-circle fashion around the Wolf.**

**Wolf:**           Why, oh why is it that I never do anything right? I have tried for years to destroy the Pig family and I can never succeed.

**Chorus:**        Poor Wolf. He always does everything wrong.

**(Enter Lenny)**

**Lenny:**         Hello Wolf. Did you blow down the brick house yet and get rid of the Three Little Pigs?

**Wolf:**           Naw, I got mad when the 2nd Little Pig fled from the stick house. I didn't catch him...again....He keeps running to the brick house and I haven't figured out a way to blow that house down.

**Chorus:**        Poor Wolf. He can't do anything right.

**Wolf:**           Hey, cut that out (facing the chorus). I'm not in the mood for teasing! I've got problems.

**Lenny:**         Come on and join the **Bloom Society**, Wolf. They'll teach you to think like the 3rd Little Pig.

**Chorus:**        Go on, Wolf. Listen to Lenny.

**Wolf:**           What society? Besides, I can't. I never succeed at anything I try.

**Lenny:**         Of course, you can succeed. You aren't the Scarecrow character in *The Wizard of Oz*. You do have a brain. You just don't know how to use it!

**Handout A3.2,H1, p. 1**

**Wolf:** Well, I might as well be, because I know I've never been taught to use my brain. I sure don't seem to be able to solve my own problems. **Life used to be so simple**—that is, *before the Three Little Pigs*.

**Chorus:** Don't know how to use the brain you've got!

**Lenny:** Well, I know how to fix that. I'm going to introduce you to my *brain fixers*, the **Bloom quintuplets!** They always help me with my problems....

**Chorus:** The **Bloom quintuplets?**

**Lenny:** Hey, **Blooms!** Come on in! I have a friend that needs your help.

(Enter: the five Blooms, each clearly labeled with a sign around his/her neck.)

(As Lenny introduces each skill, they step forward and take a bow.)

**Lenny:** Wolf, I want you to meet my secret skills, the thinking skills: **Recall, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, and Evaluation.**

**Wolf:** What **good** are they going to do me? I don't even know what their names mean and what kinds of skills they are?

**Recall:** Then I'm the first skill you need. I'm **Recall**. I'm easy to use. You won't have to do much thinking at all, in fact, you're ready to take a test now. What material did the 3rd Little Pig use to build his house?

**Wolf:** **Recall**, that's easy! He used bricks. I don't understand, so what good are you?

**Lenny:** **Recall** will not help you much without the next step.

**Application:** And that's me. My name is **Application**. When you take something you have learned and put it to use, you are applying knowledge.

**Wolf:** Let's see. I learned that the Three Little Pigs built their houses out of straw, sticks, and bricks and that was my first level of thinking. I only used **Recall** of my knowledge. Now, I know your name is **Application**—but what can you do for me?

**Application:** I bet the 3rd Little Pig used **Application** when he built his house out of the pile of bricks.

**Lenny:** Well, yes, because if you think about it all the Little Pigs used **Application** when they constructed their houses. Or, you used **Application** when you demonstrated that you could blow down the straw house because you recalled that the house was constructed from straw and straw was easy to blow away.

**Wolf:** Oh, I think **Application** is smarter than **Recall**.

**Chorus:** Wolf, you're getting smarter already.

**Wolf:** This is fun. What's the next step?

**Analysis:** That's me. My name is **Analysis**. And if you think **Application** was smart, wait until you try me!

**Wolf:** What do I do when I analyze?

**Chorus:** What do you do when you analyze?

**Analysis:** You take things apart.

**Chorus:** You take things apart???? But, wolves tear things apart? Shhh!!!!

**Wolf:** I get it. If I know what all the different parts are, then maybe I'll understand the whole picture better. Am I analyzing if I examine the brick house closely so I could detect all its parts, and, just maybe, I'll find a weak spot? Maybe I'll find an open window or chimney large enough to enter? Or, maybe the bricks in the house are easy to break with a hammer?

**Chorus:** Ohoooo, a weak spot in the house. Wolf's getting the picture.

**Wolf:** Okay, I need to go back to the scene. See you later...

**Lenny:** Just wait one minute....Wolf....you have two more parts to consider. Besides, we need to make sure your brain is really working before you go back to the scene.

**Wolf:** Well, hurry up....What comes next?

**Lenny:** The most popular Thinking Skill of all, **Synthesis**.

**Wolf:** What is **Synthesis**?

**Chorus:** What is **Synthesis**?

**Synthesis:** I'm Synthesis, sometimes called **Creativity**. And I'm **much** more complicated than some people think and **much** easier than other people think.

**Wolf:** Gee....You sound more like a riddle.

**Chorus:** **Synthesis** sounds like a riddle.

**Wolf:** Gee...that Chorus is giving me a headache. Get rid of them!

**(The Chorus members quickly hide their faces.)**

**Synthesis:** **Synthesis** puts things together in a new or different way.

**Wolf:** You mean I analyze....

**Chorus:** Take apart.

**Wolf:** ...so I can synthesize by putting things back together?

**Lenny:** That's right!

**Chorus:** What's so hard about synthesizing?

**Lenny:** Wolf, sometimes it's hard to see a new way of doing things.

**Wolf:** That doesn't sound very easy to me. But let me try. If I look at all the parts to the whole picture then I can rearrange those parts. Like if I look at the different parts to the third Little Pig's House and then figure out how it's made then maybe I can create **something to use** to help me get into the house or down the chimney?

**Chorus:** Right....it's figuring out a new way in....to get to the Three Little Pigs...

**Lenny:** Well, maybe, but then if we synthesize correctly it will lead us to **Evaluation** and maybe to a **different solution** to your problem.

**Chorus:** A better solution.....let's see...

**Evaluation:** Well, I thought you would never call my name.

**Chorus:** What will Wolf do when he evaluates?

**Evaluation:** He will have to make decisions...sometimes very difficult ones.

**Wolf:** But, I do that all the time...besides...**hurry up**...I'm getting hungry.

**Evaluation:** Wolf, you may make decisions all the time...but do you ever stop to consider **WHY** you make those decisions or judgments?

**Chorus:** Why? Why? Why?

**Lenny:** And the hardest part is knowing when you need to go back and start over again.

**Wolf:** You're confusing me. What do you mean?

**Chorus:** What do you mean?

**Lenny:** Well, when you are trying to synthesize...

**Chorus:** Put things together.

**Lenny:** ....it's not always easy to know if the **new way** is better or worse.

**Chorus:** But time will tell.

**Wolf:** Boy, it's sure going to take time for me to learn all this.

**Lenny:** Wolf, do you think you might need to make a new judgment on **WHY** you want to destroy the Little Pigs?

**Chorus:** **Destroy the Three Little Pigs?**

**Wolf:** Well, I don't really know, I have plenty of food to eat. Besides, I really don't like **pig meat!**

**Chorus:** He doesn't even like **pig meat!**

**Lenny:** Wolf, maybe you need to exert your energy by trying to help the other Pigs build brick houses instead of trying to figure out how to blow them down. **Just think** what you could accomplish. Maybe the Pigs would even help you build a new brick home for your grandmother; she needs more space.

**Wolf:**

Hey, that's really a good idea, I think I like the Blooms! Do you think the Blooms will help work with my cousin? He is hiding in the woods—**waiting for Red Riding Hood**, you know, the cute kid, walking to Grandma's House!

**Chorus:**

Why not? All you need to do is **recall, apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate.**

