Stand Straight, Ella Kate
The True Story of a Real Giant

Written by Kate Klise and M. Sarah Klise
Illustrated by M. Sarah Klise
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This is the true story of Ella Kate Ewing, a woman who lived from 1872-1913 and grew to be over eight feet tall. She endured ridicule with the support of her loving family who encouraged her to “stand straight,” and be proud of who she was. Ella followed their advice and used her unique stature to her benefit - traveling with P.T. Barnum & Bailey Circus, after which she built her own custom-sized home in Gorin, Missouri.

About the Author
Kate Klise was born in Peoria, Illinois and majored in English at Marquette University. She now lives in the Missouri Ozarks. Her favorite artist is her sister, Sarah Klise.

About the Illustrator
Sarah Klise, sister to Kate Klise, was born in Peoria, Illinois and majored in history at Marquette University. She is now an art teacher in the San Francisco Bay area of California.

Accompanying Activities

1. Social Studies: Primary Sources
Show the included slide show with images related to the book. Define primary sources. Encourage students to share what additional information they can learn from viewing the primary sources. Discuss how the images confirm the events and locations depicted in the fictional book Stand Straight, Ella Kate.

Ella Kate Prezi
http://prezi.com/hrjd_moux_4a/stand-straight-ella-kate/

- Social Studies Skills - The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of valid sources, including electronic technology.
  o Obtain information about a topic using a variety of valid visual sources such as pictures, symbols, electronic media, and artifacts.
    TEKS: SS 113.11 (b) 14 B
  o Obtain information about a topic using a variety of valid visual sources such as pictures, symbols, electronic media, maps, literature and artifacts.
    TEKS: SS 113.12 (b) 17 B
  o Obtain information about a topic using a variety of valid visual sources such as pictures, maps, electronic sources, literature, reference sources, and artifacts.
    TEKS: SS 113.13 (b) 18 C
2. Math: Measurement
Discuss ways to compare students and Ella Kate to bring her size to life. Use Ella’s glove on the book’s endpapers to compare students’ hands to her hand. Have students trace their hand on paper. Compare their hand to Ella’s using nonstandard units of measurement like paper clips or color tiles. Make a life-size version of Ella Kate (8 feet, 4 inches) with butcher paper and compare her height to others present.

- **Measurement** - The student directly compares the attributes of length, area, weight/mass, capacity, and/or relative temperature. The student uses comparative language to solve problems and answer questions.
  - Compare and order two or three concrete objects according to length (longer/shorter than, or the same).
    TEKS: MATH 111.12 (b) 10 A

- **Measurement** - The student directly compares the attributes of length, area, weight/mass, capacity, and temperature. The student uses comparative language to solve problems and answer questions. The student selects and uses nonstandard units to describe length.
  - Estimate and measure length using nonstandard units such as paper clips or sides of color tiles.
    TEKS: MATH 111.13 (b) 7 A

- **Measurement** - The student directly compares the attributes of length, area, weight/mass, and capacity, and uses comparative language to solve problems and answer questions. The student selects and uses nonstandard units to describe length, area, capacity, and weight/mass. The student recognizes and uses models that approximate standard units (from both SI, also known as metric, and customary systems) of length, weight/mass, capacity, and time. Estimate and measure length using nonstandard units such as paper clips or sides of color tiles.
  - Identify concrete models that approximate standard units of length and use them to measure length.
    TEKS: MATH 111.14 (b) 9 A

**Companion Books**

**Books by Kate Klise & Sarah Klise**

**Acceptance**
Internet Resources
The Klise Sisters’ Website
   http://www.kateandsharahlise.com/
Information about Ella Kate’s Life
   http://www.thetallestman.com/ellaewing.htm