The Fisherman and His Wife; Strategies for Telling the Tale
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Story Strategies: *Teacher in role*, *children in role*, *sign language*, *repetitive choral chant*; This is a **circle story** (the story ends as it begins) which facilitates **sequencing memory** and **story predictions**.
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Once upon a time in China, there lived a fisherman (show *tableau*) and his wife (show *tableau*). They lived in a tiny house by the beautiful blue ocean. (Show ocean with a silk blue cloth.) Sometimes the ocean was rough (wave cloth) and sometimes it was smooth and calm. (Lay it down on the floor.) The husband and wife were very poor but very happy.

One day the fisherman was fishing. (Sing while fishing) He looked down in the water and could see shells and algae and fish with different colored scales. *What else might he see in the ocean?*

All at once his fishing pole began to tug. He had caught something! He pulled it up and saw a colorful flounder fish. This fish was *Magic.* It said to him:

Please Mr. Fisherman, if you let me go I shall give you a wish.

"What?" "A talking fish?" said the fisherman, "I don't need a wish. You may go free." He ran back home quickly to tell his wife.

(Teacher in role as the wife): You caught a magic talking fish and you did not get a wish? ***Go back to that fish and get my wish.*** *I wish to have a big house with a large garden.* The fisherman went back to the ocean and called the fish. *I will need your help:*

Oh great fish – under the sea
Please, Please come back to me!

And the magic fish swam from low to high. (eeeeeeeeh POP!) *Let me see you magic fish* (children-in-role initiate a low to high movement sequence). The magic fish had popped up to the surface of the ocean. *Thank you for coming, magic fish. My wife would like a wish. She would like to have…*(students remind you). The fish said*, "She has it already, now go."*

When the fisherman went home, he could not believe his eyes. Now there was a big house with a huge garden. His wife was picking her flowers. But very soon, she said, ***This-is not- enough; I must have more. Husband, Go***

back to the fish and get me my wish. *I wish to have a castle and be the Empress…the queen of China.*

The fisherman, not wanting to disappoint his wife, went back to the ocean and called the fish. (Repeat the above chant and fish-moving sequence.)

Oh Great Fish – Under the Sea
Please, Please come back to me!

Eeeeeh –Pop! (The fisherman makes this next request and he is told as before that *she has it already, now go.*)

He returns home and can not believe his eyes. There is the castle and his wife is putting on a crown. She is happy for awhile but one day she says….***This-is-not-enough; I must have more. Husband, go back to the fish and get me my wish.*** *I wish to rule the sun and the moon and the stars!* "But wife," pleaded the husband, "That is too much. No one can rule the sun and the moon and the stars." But his wife said: ***Go back to the fish and get me my wish!***

So the fisherman walked back to the ocean. It was very windy and cold. The ocean was angry and rough. (Show with silk cloth.) The ocean was dark and he could not see the creatures below. He called the fish over the wind (must call 2times because the wind is so strong):

Oh Great Fish – Under the Sea
Please, Please come back to me!

Eeeeh-Pop! After the husband makes this final wish, the fish said only three words: *Go Home Fisherman.*

He walked home and when he got there, what do you think he saw? That's right. All that was there was the tiny little house from before – and his wife was sitting outside the door.

They learned to be happy is what they say
And they are still living there today