

# FOLK TALES

## PRINT Breakout or escape activity



On the way home from school you decide to take a shortcut through the forest. After a few minutes you realize that you don't know where you are. You are starting to worry. Then a girl runs up to you. She is dressed in a red cape and is carrying a basket. She tells you a wolf has locked her grandmother in a closet. The only way to open the closet is to enter a series of codes into the lock. If the codes aren't entered in one hour the wolf will show up and eat granny for dinner! Can you help this girl figure out the lock code and save her grandmother? Good luck!



### CHALLENGE #2



One day panther challenged cheetah, lion and zebra to a race. Panther wanted to be known as the fastest animal in the savannah. The race started. Panther took the lead with jaguar and lion close behind. Cheetah ran as fast as he could, but he was the last one to cross the finish line. The other animals began to ridicule cheetah and told him tortoises ran faster than him.

Cheetah did not like being teased. He went to visit the wise warthog for help. He asked if wise warthog could help him run faster. "I can help you" said wise warthog. "I will make you run faster than the wind, but only for a brief period. Then you will be forced to rest before you can run fast again." Cheetah agreed to this. When Cheetah woke up in the morning, he challenged panther, lion and zebra to a race. They agreed to race, but thought cheetah was foolish. Cheetah took off and finished the race before the other animals had even started. Now you know why cheetahs are the fastest animals in the world.

1. What type of folktale is this?

- T. pourquoi tale
- C. fable
- R. fairy tale
- M. trickster tale

3. What word best describes how panther, lion and zebra felt at the end of the story?

- D. important
- G. calm
- J. proud
- C. amazed



2. What does the underlined word ridicule mean?

- N. to give approval
- O. to give aid or help
- A. to make fun of
- W. to provide instructions

4. Which word could you use to replace brief as it is used in the story?

- H. long
- O. short
- P. temporary
- B. great



### CHALLENGE #4

What type of folktale is being described? Follow the code for each answer.  
Fairy tale = 3  
TALE = 1 FABLE = 2 FAIRY TALE = 3 POURQUOI = 4 TRICKSTER = 5

A wizard puts a spell on a princess. Only the kiss from her true love can break the spell. \_\_\_\_\_

A bear carries a bolt of lightning on her shoulder. As a baby she had carry a cow across the field. One time she stopped a tornado and it into a gentle rain shower. \_\_\_\_\_

A fox thought, "those berries are probably sour anyway". Often, he saw some berries in a tall tree. He wanted to eat the berries. He was hard to reach them, but they were too high off the ground. \_\_\_\_\_

A coyote found him. "You will make a good lunch" said the coyote. "You won't be able to eat me." Coyote replied, "I will roll you and your shell will break." "Please don't do that" begged the possum. "why possums do not have hair on their tails." \_\_\_\_\_

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# Folk Tales

## Escape Room/Breakout Activity

**Overview:** I created this activity to review how different types of folk tales. The purpose of a breakout is to solve puzzles or challenges and to figure out the lock codes. These lock codes are what allow the students to “break out” or escape. Students will work together in small groups to solve the challenges and discover the lock codes.

**What is included in this product:**

- Set of 3 challenges (color copies)
- Set of 3 challenges (black and white copies)
- Answer sheet and recording sheet

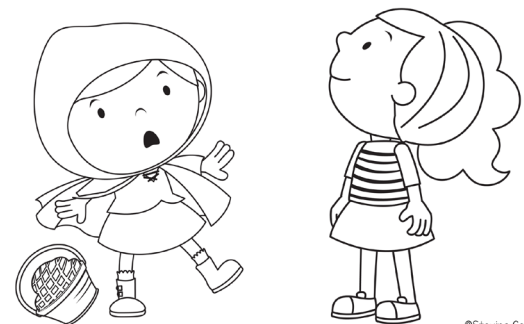
### Breakout scenario

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# Folk Tales

## Escape Room/Breakout Activity

### 4 challenges - color and b/w

For challenges 1–3 students will read a passage and then answer comprehension questions about the passage.

For challenge 4 students will read a short description and decide what type of folk tale the passage is.

### CHALLENGE #1

➤ Look at the picture in front of your answer choice. Circle that picture on the answer sheet to come up with the lock code.

It is fall and time to get ready for winter. The ants have been working very hard. They have spent their time finding food and storing it for the cold months ahead. The grasshopper did not like to work. She spent her days playing, singing songs and dancing. The ants told grasshopper that she needed to get busy and prepare for winter. The grasshopper ignored the ants and kept having fun.

Then one day it started to snow. It was very cold. The ants were snug in their anthill and had plenty of food to last them all winter. The grasshopper was hungry. She could not find any food to eat. She did not want to sing and dance anymore. She was sad that she did not listen to the ants.

- What type of Folktale is this?
  - tall tale
  - Fable
  - Fairy tale
  - trickster tale
- What word best describes the ants?
  - brave
  - Funny
  - hardworking
  - afraid
- What word best describes the grasshopper?
  - clever
  - generous
  - shy
  - lazy
- What is the moral of this story?
  - Always tell the truth
  - Keep your promises
  - Work first, play later
  - Treat others with respect

### CHALLENGE #2

One day panther challenged cheetah, lion and zebra to a race. Panther wanted to be known as the fastest animal in the savannah. The race started. Panther took the lead with jaguar and lion close behind. Cheetah ran as fast as he could, but he was the last one to cross the finish line. The other animals began to ridicule cheetah and told him tortoises ran faster than him.

Cheetah did not like being teased. He went to visit the wise warthog for help. He asked if wise warthog could help him run faster. "I can help you" said wise warthog. "I will make you run faster than the wind, but only for a brief period. Then you will be forced to rest before you can run fast again." Cheetah agreed to this. When Cheetah woke up in the morning, he challenged panther, lion and zebra to a race. They agreed to race, but thought cheetah was foolish. Cheetah took off and finished the race before the other animals had even started. Now you know why cheetahs are the fastest animals in the world.

- What type of Folktale is this?
  - T. pourquoi tale
  - C. Fable
  - R. Fairy tale
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- What does the underlined word ridicule mean?
  - N. to give approval
  - O. to give aid or help
  - A. to make fun of
  - W. to provide instructions
- What word best describes how panther, lion and zebra felt at the end of the story?
  - D. important
  - G. calm
  - J. proud
  - C. amazed
- Which word could you use to replace brief as it is used in the story?
  - H. long
  - O. short
  - P. temporary
  - B. great

### CHALLENGE #3

Read the passage. Use the pictures to help you fill in the blanks correctly.

A shoemaker and his wife were very poor. They ran out of leather to make their \_\_\_\_\_. If they could not make new shoes to sell, the old couple would not be able to buy food or heat their \_\_\_\_\_. They went to bed sad. In the morning they found three pairs of new shoes. Someone had made them. The couple sold the shoes and had \_\_\_\_\_ to buy food. They found new shoes again the next morning. The third night the couple decided to hide to see who was making the shoes. Two elves were making the shoes. The elves used a \_\_\_\_\_ spell to make the shoes. The couple noticed the elves did not have a coat to wear and it was very \_\_\_\_\_ out. To thank the elves the couple made new coats for the elves to wear. They also wrote a letter. In the letter they thanked the elves for helping them and said they were able to buy more leather so they could make their own shoes from now on. The elves were happy. They put on their coats and went to find someone else to help.

\*1 \_\_\_\_\_

\*2 \_\_\_\_\_

\*3 \_\_\_\_\_

\*4 \_\_\_\_\_

\*5 \_\_\_\_\_

### CHALLENGE #4

What type of folktale is being described? Follow the code for each answer.  
Example: Fairy tale = 3

TALL TALE = 1 FABLE = 2 FAIRY TALE = 3 POURQUOI = 4 TRICKSTER = 5

- An evil wizard puts a spell on a princess. Only the kiss from her true love can break the spell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Thunder Rose carries a bolt of lightning on her shoulder. As a baby she could carry a cow across the field. One time she stopped a tornado and turned it into a gentle rain shower. \_\_\_\_\_
- A fox saw some berries in a tall tree. He wanted to eat the berries. He tried very hard to reach them, but they were too high off the ground. Finally the fox thought, "those berries are probably sour anyway." Often, we hate what we can't have. \_\_\_\_\_
- Possum wanted some apples. The only apples were in bear's apple tree. Bear did not want anyone to eat his apples. When Bear was sleeping, possum climbed the tree and ate all the apples. Bear woke up, and chased possum and grabbed his tail. Possum got away but he lost all the hair on his tail. This is why possums do not have hair on their tails. \_\_\_\_\_
- Turtle was lost. A coyote found him. "You will make a good lunch" said coyote. Turtle told him "you can't eat me. I have a strong shell. If you can't break my shell, you won't be able to eat me." Coyote replied, "I will roll you down the hill and your shell will break." "Please don't do that" begged turtle. Coyote did it anyway. By the time coyote made it to the bottom of the hill turtle had made it to the river and swam away. \_\_\_\_\_

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\*1 \_\_\_\_\_

\*2 \_\_\_\_\_

\*3 \_\_\_\_\_

\*4 \_\_\_\_\_

\*5 \_\_\_\_\_





























## Answer key and certificates

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

# ANSWER SHEET

## CHALLENGE #1

Use the code below to come up with the lock code. It is a 4-letter word.

																									
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



LOCK CODE — — — —




## CHALLENGE #2


Use the correct answers' letters to figure out the lock code.

LOCK CODE — — — —

## CHALLENGE #3

#1 — — — —  #4  — — — —

#2 — —   — — #5 —  — — — —

#3 — — — —  — — LOCK CODE — — — — —

## CHALLENGE #4

Add up the numbers you wrote for each answer of challenge #4. This number is the answer to the lock.

— + — + — + — + — = —

LOCK CODE — — — —

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Names: \_\_\_\_\_

# ANSWER SHEET

## CHALLENGE #1

Use the code below to come up with the lock code. It is a 4-letter word.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

LOCK CODE C A K E

## CHALLENGE #2

Use the correct answers' letters to figure out the lock code.

LOCK CODE T A C O

## CHALLENGE #3

#1 S H O E (S) #4 (M) A G L C

#2 H O (U) (S) E #5 C (O) L D

#3 M O N (E) Y LOCK CODE M O U S S E

## CHALLENGE #4

Add up the numbers you wrote for each answer of challenge #4. This number is the answer to the lock.

3 + 1 + 2 + 4 + 5 = 15

LOCK CODE 1 5

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