

INTRODUCTION TO FOLK TALES



WHAT IS A FOLK TALE?

- ✓ Oral stories passed down from generation to generation
- ✓ Oral stories that were later written down
- ✓ May have some type of magic
- ✓ Animals act like people
- ✓ Good wins over evil
- ✓ Usually teaches some type of lesson

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FOLK TALE EXAMPLES



The Three Little Pigs



Town Mouse,
Country Mouse



Hansel and
Gretel



Goldilocks and the
Three Bears



Paul Bunyan

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FAIRY TALES

- ✓ Has some type of magic
- ✓ Good versus evil. Good wins in the end.
- ✓ Begins with "once upon a time"
- ✓ Ends with "happily ever after"



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TALL TALES

- ✓ Sometimes based on a real person
- ✓ Main character is "larger than life"
- ✓ Usually funny
- ✓ Very exaggerated
(can wrestle a tornado)



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FABLES

- ✓ Short story
- ✓ Characters are usually animals
- ✓ Teaches a moral or lesson
- ✓ Aesop fables are the most well-known



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POURQUOI TALES

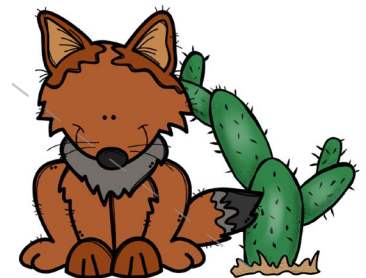
- ✓ Explains why something happened
(usually in nature)
- ✓ How and why tales
Why tigers have stripes
How the leopard got its spots
- ✓ Pourquoi means why in French



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TRICKSTER TALES

- ✓ One animal gets tricked by another
- ✓ One animal is usually lazy
- ✓ Animals talk and act like people
- ✓ Spiders and coyotes are popular tricksters



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READ THE PASSAGE WHAT KIND OF FOLKTALE IS IT?

Coyote steals a blanket that is covering a boulder. Hummingbird tells him not to take what isn't his. Coyote doesn't listen and is chased by the boulder through the desert.



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READ THE PASSAGE WHAT KIND OF FOLKTALE IS IT?

Hare challenges Tortoise to a race. Hare knows he will win because he is the fastest animal around. But when he decides to take a nap since he is so far ahead, Tortoise takes the lead and wins the race. Hare learns that being fast is not always best.

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READ THE PASSAGE WHAT KIND OF FOLKTALE IS IT?

Jack plants some magic bean seeds. The seeds grow into a bean stalk that leads up to the clouds. When Jack climbs it he finds a giant, a magic harp and a hen that lays gold eggs.



FAIRY TALE



READ THE PASSAGE WHAT KIND OF FOLKTALE IS IT?

Bear says he can do anything. Brown squirrel does not believe him and teases him. Bear gets angry and scratches his back, leaving stripes. Brown squirrel is now chipmunk, the striped one.

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POURQUOI TALE



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READ THE PASSAGE WHAT KIND OF FOLKTALE IS IT?

Mike Fink was a keelboatman on the Mississippi River. When he was 2 years old, he ran away from home because he hated to be inside. He was so strong he could wrestle a grizzly bear or an alligator.

