

## Genre: Fable or Tall Tale

Book Project: Make Puppets or Put On a Play



This month you will read three fables or tall tales. You will then choose your favorite fable or tall tale to use for this project.

**FABLES:** In a fable, characters are animals that talk and act like people. They are usually short stories. They contain a lesson or moral about life.

**TALL TALES:** In tall tales, the characters contain superhuman traits (Paul Bunyan). Tall tales explain how something in nature came to be (Grand Canyon). They often contain hyperbole (gross exaggerations) and similes (comparisons which use the words "like" or "as" to compare things).

Examples:

Fables by Arnold Lobel

The Little Red Ant and the Great Big Crumb by Shirley Climo (Mexican fable)

Seven Blind Mice by Ed Young

Squids Will Be Squids by Jon Scieszka

The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka

Frog Prince Continued by Jon Scieszka

The Quiltmaker's Gift by Jeff Brumbeau

American Tall Tales by Mary Pope Osborne

The Persian Cinderella by Shirley Climo

The Korean Cinderella by Shirley Climo

My Father's Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett

Paul Bunyan and Other Tall Tales by Jane B. Mason

Trojan Horse: How the Greeks Won the War by Emily Little

D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths by Ingri & Edgar Parin D'Aulaire



**PROJECT CHOICES:** Choose one.

1. **Play:** Write a play in your own words retelling the story. Record it into a cassette tape recorder. Be sure to include the title, author, genre, and your name at the beginning of the cassette recording.
2. **Puppets:** Make puppets and be ready to tell your book group all about the main characters and the problems faced in your story. You can make the puppets out of tongue depressors, socks, or whatever you can think of. Make whatever props you think you might need.
3. **Play and Puppets:** To earn extra points on your project, make puppets and put on a puppet show, acting out the story to your cassette tape recording.

**PRESENTATIONS:** This month, your book project will be presented to our class.