Tall Tale Truths

Sort real history from made-up parts of a Paul Bunyan tale.

1.H.8 "Distinguish between historical fact and fiction in American folktales and legends that are part of American culture."

NAME _____ DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 PAUL'S TALE

(a) **Fact** | **Fiction** | **Both**

(b) **Fact** | **Both** | **Fiction**

2 BABE'S TALE

(a) **Both** | **Fiction** | **Fact**

(b) **Fiction** | **Both** | **Fact**

ANSWER KEY

Tall Tale Truths

GRADE 1 · 1.H.8

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read the directions and each row aloud. Students circle whether the named part is a fact, fiction, or a sentence with both. Their choices show whether they can separate real details from made-up claims in an American tall tale.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 · PAUL'S TALE

SAY "A fact is true, like snow is cold. Fiction is made up, like a talking snowman. Both means a sentence has a fact and a made-up part. Listen to these lines about Paul Bunyan and circle one word in each row."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	In a tall tale, Paul Bunyan was taller than a mountain. Is his height fact, fiction, or both?	**Fiction**
b	Long ago, lumberjacks cut down trees with axes. Is that fact, fiction, or both?	**Fact**

PART 2 · BABE'S TALE

SAY "Babe the Blue Ox is in stories about Paul Bunyan. Listen to each line and decide what is real and what is made up. Circle one word in each row."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Minnesota has many lakes. Is that fact, fiction, or both?	**Fact**
b	Minnesota has lakes, and Babe the Blue Ox made them by stomping. Is the whole sentence fact, fiction, or both?	**Both**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

In order: Fiction, Fact, Fact, Both. The last sentence combines real lakes with a made-up claim about how they formed.