

Story Clue Detectives

Use story clues to tell three traditional tale types apart.

2.9.A “demonstrate knowledge of distinguishing characteristics of well-known children's literature such as folktales, fables, and fairy tales;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one or more clues in each paragraph that tell what kind of traditional story it describes. Then write F for folktale, B for fable, or T for fairy tale in the margin beside each paragraph.

Clues in Old Stories

- ① Stories told aloud long ago can change a little as families share them. They often show everyday people solving problems with clever ideas. Different places tell their own versions, and no one author is known for many of these stories.
- ② In some short stories, animals talk and act like people. A fox may trick a crow, or a turtle may win a race. At the end, the story teaches a lesson about choices, such as being honest or patient.
- ③ Other stories have magic, such as a spell, a talking mirror, or a flying horse. Kings, queens, princes, or princesses may appear. The ending is often happy, after a kind character faces a hard problem.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What kind of story does paragraph 2 describe? Give two clues from the paragraph.

2 What kind of story does paragraph 1 describe? Give two clues from the paragraph.

3 Which paragraph describes a fairy tale? What two clues show this?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a two-sentence idea for a new traditional story. Include two clues that fit one kind of story, then name the kind in your second sentence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one or more clues in each paragraph that tell what kind of traditional story it describes. Then write F for folktale, B for fable, or T for fairy tale in the margin beside each paragraph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What kind of story does paragraph 2 describe? Give two clues from the paragraph.	A fable. Animals talk and act like people, and the story teaches a lesson.
2	What kind of story does paragraph 1 describe? Give two clues from the paragraph.	A folktale. It is told aloud and shared by families, has different versions, and often has no known author.
3	Which paragraph describes a fairy tale? What two clues show this?	Paragraph 3. It has magic and may include kings, queens, princes, or princesses.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A poor girl finds a magic seed that grows into a ladder to a cloud castle. This is a fairy tale because it has magic and a castle.

Accept any accurate genre label supported by clues from the matching paragraph. For the open task, accept a two-sentence response with two fitting traits and a correctly named folktale, fable, or fairy tale.