Myths, Legends and Fables

Quick Guide Grades 3-5

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Each of us is writing a story!

Stories have been told to inspire the hero in each of us
   A Hero:
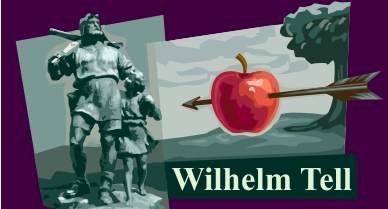   ❖   A person decides to do their best
   ❖   He/she battles fears and develops self-confidence
   ❖   The person completes a great task that helps others
   ❖   The person becomes a positive example to others

   ❖   **Legends are often about real people who dared to live their lives courageously.**
       We can learn how to write our own *life* stories by knowing theirs. Legends are about real people.   Over time people exaggerated aspects of the story.

   ❖   **Tall Tales** exaggerate the stories of real or fictional people to the point of absolute impossibility.

   ❖   **Myths are stories that explain something.**
       Myths usually involve supernatural creatures or talking animals. Many myths come from ancient Greece such as Zeus and Pan.

   ❖   **Fables are stories that are told to teach a lesson.**
       Fables include talking animals.
       The Wizard of Oz
       Tortoise and the Hair

Stories connect our small worlds to a much larger world. Without traveling away from home we can use what we learn by **reading** to make our dreams more than dreams. We can bring them to life! We can become like the people we admire in music, sports, medicine, statesmanship, theater---in any field we choose. LAFS.3.FL.1.2; Understand Fables, legends, myths from diverse cultures; determine central message, lesson or moral and explain. MU.3.C.1.3; MU.3.H.1.1 Identify families of orchestra; compare cultures.

Legend
Story of real person or event to which some exaggeration is added

William Tell

Robin Hood
Pocahontas
Johnny Appleseed

Historical figures:
Abraham Lincoln
Harriet Tubman
Dr. Martin Luther King
George Washington
Mother Teresa

Tall Tales:
Davy Crockett
Pecos Bill
John Henry
Paul Bunyan

Myths:
Pan and Syrinx
Zeus
Apollo
Poseidon

Fables:
The Boy Who Cried Wolf
Lion King
Wizard of Oz
1001 Arabian Nights
Emperor's New Clothes

Post Program Inventory of Learning Grades 3-5

1.   **The flute is a _____ instrument.**
        a. woodwind
        b. brass
        c. percussion

2.   Reading is one way to expand the way we see the world and to understand other people and cultures.
        True   False

3.   Science helps to explain the sound quality of various instruments.
        True   False

4.   The stories of William Tell and Johnny Appleseed are examples of_____.
        a. fairy tales
        b. legends
        c. myths

5.   Hercules and Pan and Syrinx are examples of _____.
        a. myths
        b. legends
        c. fables

6.   A legend is an embellished story that is based on a real person or event.
        True   False

7.   A fable teaches a lesson or moral.   True   False

8.   The Wizard of Oz is an example of a _____.
        a. legend
        b. fable
        c. folk tale

9.   One lesson in the Wizard of Oz is _____.
        a. each of us already possess the qualities we need to succeed
        b. always pay the Pied Piper

10.   The meaning of macaroni in the song Yankee Doodle is _____.
        a. it does not have a meaning
        b. the decoration worn by a gentlemen or officer

Write a letter either describing what you learned or particularly liked about the program Myths, Legends, and Fables or an exposition comparing and contrasting myths and fables or legends and tall tales using examples from the program.