

The iEARN Folk Tales Project

Folktales are a part of the culture and heritage in every culture and country around the world. Folktales are stories of animals that act like humans, enchanted kingdoms, heroes, unusual people and that live in a world of wonder and magic having super natural power. Most of these stories convey a message or moral to the reader, or explain something in a creative way and that is why they are a very important and significant part of the primary and middle school curriculums. This iEARN project engages students from different countries and cultures to share their folktales as a means of exchanging cultural heritage.



What makes it a Tale?

Forces of Evil: In many Folk and Fairy tales and evil force works against the hero or heroin to try to stop them from being happy. (Example: The wicked Stepmother in Snow White.)

Magic Numbers: In many Folk and Fairy tales, the numbers three and seven occur. (Think of the three pigs, the three bears, and the seven dwarfs.)



Supernatural Elements: Often in a folk or fairy tale, supernatural elements - things not of our earth - like fairies or elves come to the aid of the hero or heroin, (Example: Cinderella's Fairy God Mother.)



- ❖ Log in the iEARN Folktales Forum <http://foro.iearn.org/.f296b71/>
- ❖ In groups or pairs, selects one of the folk tales and discuss the following:

1. **Forces of Evil:** What evil works against the hero/heroin?
2. **Magic Numbers:** What numbers are important in this tale? Why?
3. List the **supernatural elements** in this tale. How do they help? How do they cause trouble?
4. What is the **lesson** the tale teaches?

Frame a response based on the above discussion point and the way students used the elements of the folk tales and post your response.