



Amplify Texas Elementary Literacy Program is a TEKS-aligned language arts curriculum designed to support Texas learners in the classroom, at home, or wherever learning takes place. Built on the science of teaching reading, the program combines systematic foundational skills with content knowledge—so that learning to read and reading to learn develop together.

Welcome to Grade 2, Domain 1, *Fairy Tales and Tall Tales*! Here is what your student will be learning about over the next few weeks.

In *Fairy Tales and Tall Tales*, your student will explore classic tales and the well-known lessons they teach. They will be listening to stories such as “Beauty and the Beast” and “Paul Bunyan,” which will lay the foundation for understanding stories in future grades.

As they dive into daily Read-Alouds, these memorable tales will remind students of the elements of fiction they have learned about in previous grades. They will take the lessons that are learned from the stories and use them to relate to the problems the characters face. Your student will also be introduced to the American frontier as they listen to various tall tales and explore the elements of that genre.

Students will use their knowledge of the elements and characteristics of fairy tales and tall tales to write about a scene from a story and rewrite a fairy tale of their own!

While your student engages in the rich content and lessons throughout the unit, here are a few conversation starters you can use to promote discussion and continued learning.

- What are some of the characteristics you have learned about fairy tales?
 - Follow up: How did you know that ("The Emperor's New Clothes" or "Beauty and the Beast") was a fairy tale?
- In the story "Beauty and the Beast," the Beast is described as fearsome. What does *fearsome* mean?
 - Follow up: What made him seem fearsome? Can you think of other words that are synonyms (i.e., have the same meaning) of *fearsome*?
- Is "Paul Bunyan" a fairy tale or a tall tale?
 - Follow up: How did you know? What is one of the exaggerations you talked

about when you read "Paul Bunyan"?

- What were your two favorite tall tales you read? ("Paul Bunyan," "Pecos Bill," "John Henry," "Casey Jones")
 - Follow up: What was the same about the two main characters? What was different? What made each of them seem larger than life? What parts of each of the tall tales could really happen? What parts could not really happen?