

# Activity Idea



## FAIRYTALES READ AND CREATE

*Recommended for Ages 7 – 12*

### What is a fairytale?

- Fairytale
  - A fictional story featuring humans, animals or magical characters that may or may not teach a lesson or moral
- Myth
  - Story that attempts to answer larger questions about life and frequently includes divine characters whose actions have an effect on the world on a larger scale
- Fable
  - Short story featuring non-human characters that teaches a moral lesson based on cultural values
  - Example: The Ant and the Grasshopper specifically tells the reader to work hard and not be lazy or try to find the easy way out.

### Fairytale Characteristics

- Set in the past
- Includes fantasy or supernatural elements like magical people, objects, or animals; magic can be good or bad
- Characters are typically either clearly good or clearly evil
- Teaches a lesson or a “moral” which is a lesson based on the values considered to be important to the culture

### Common themes

- Coming of age/growing up
- Loyalty
- Beauty
- Justice-bad people are punished, and good people are rewarded
- Sibling rivalry
- Quests

**Can you name a few fairy tales?**

1. Cinderella
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Fractured Fairytales**

- Changes a traditional story in a surprising or unexpected way
- Frequently done by changing the point of view of the storyteller, for example, from the traditionally “bad” character’s perspective or the perspective of a side character watching the story happen
- Can be rewritten into a more modern setting and uses more modern values

**Choose a Fairytale**

1. Read the fairytale
2. Who is the good character? Who is the bad character?
3. What themes did you find in the story?

**Get Creative!**

Create a diorama of your favorite scene in the story you read. When it is complete, get an adult’s help to share your work on social media, use @lacountylibrary

You will need:

- Shoebox or similarly sized box
- Paper or cardstock
- Markers, colored pencils, crayons, or paint
- Scissors
- Glue
- Optional, get permission from an adult to use small household objects to represent things in the story

Directions:

1. Gather all your materials together
2. Think about the scene you want to create, and whether your box should be horizontal or vertical

3. Decorate the “background” of the scene, which is the inside of your box (i.e. sky, fields, city, etc.)
4. Create your characters from paper by drawing and cutting them out or by using your objects
5. Lay out where you want everything to go before gluing them in
6. Glue or place your items in the box to create your scene

### Read More on Overdrive!

#### Fairytales

*Cinderella* by Kinuko Y. Craft, <https://tinyurl.com/y7ydebrn>

*The Rough Faced Girl* by Rafe Martin, <https://tinyurl.com/y9b5yypc>

*The Complete Grimm’s Fairy Tales* by Brothers Grimm, <https://tinyurl.com/ydh84bpz>

*The Ugly Duckling and other Fairy Tales* by Hans Christian Anderson,  
<https://tinyurl.com/ybebx35k>

*Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* by Brothers Grimm, <https://tinyurl.com/y9529ff9>

*How the Raven Got His Crooked Nose* by Barbara J. Atwater, <https://tinyurl.com/ycrj2fun>

#### Fractured Fairytales

*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka, <https://tinyurl.com/y8vlt7y>

*The Three Ninja Pigs* by Corey Rosen Schwartz, <https://tinyurl.com/y77tquzb>

*Rump* by Liesl Shurtliff, <https://tinyurl.com/y7pez93k>

*After the Fall* by Dan Santat, <https://tinyurl.com/yd73fgwa>

*Nian, the Chinese New Year Dragon* by Virginia Loh-Hagan, <https://tinyurl.com/yak6p9l5>

#### Fables

*Aesop’s Fables* by Aesop, <https://tinyurl.com/y9n5jzg6>

*We are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom, <https://tinyurl.com/ycd7kqku>

*The Tale of Rabbit and Coyote* by Tony Johnston, <https://tinyurl.com/ycn5ek9d>

*The End of the Rainbow* by Liza Donnelly, <https://tinyurl.com/ybt8noyw>

*The Gingerbread Man* by Eric A. Kimmel, <https://tinyurl.com/yaawcn9w>

#### Myths

*Olympians Series* by George O’Connor, <https://tinyurl.com/y9u7qaxe>

*Treasury of Greek Mythology* by Donna Jo Napoli, <https://tinyurl.com/ybqlveoy>

*Explore Ancient Chinese Myths* by Anita Yasuda, <https://tinyurl.com/ybvvyvmxx>

*Norse Mythology* by Jim Ollhoff, <https://tinyurl.com/yam2tyvy>