LA COUNTY LIBRARY

Activity Idea

FAIRYTALES

COMPARE AND CONTRAST THEMES

Recommended for Ages 7 – 12

Fairytales, fables, and myths are folklore stories originally told orally both for entertainment and education. These stories often repeat themes or characteristics and usually taught a moral lesson valuable to the culture or answered an important question about life.

Common Characteristics

Read two fairytales, fables and myths and fill in the chart below. Choose your favorites or choose from the list provided. For each story, check off any of the elements you find. Then answer the questions below.

Title	Quest	Coming of Age	Wealth vs. Poverty	Mask or Disguise	Magical Object	Talking Animal	Repeating Numbers/ Objects/ Phrases

Think About It

1. Which types have the most in common?

2. Was there another common theme that was not listed?
   Write it here: _____

3. Now read a fractured fairytale, does it have the same themes? If so, why do you think those themes have carried on? If there are different themes, what are they and why do you think they were included?

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/y8vlvt7y
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/ybvyvmxx
Norse Mythology by Jim Ollhoff, https://tinyurl.com/yam2tyvy