

A Look at Oregon Folklore (It's Homegrown!)

The What:

You are going to be reading a selection of folklore pieces from *The Stories We Tell: An Anthology of Oregon Folk Literature*.

For each piece you read, you will need to answer the questions listed below (handwritten responses, which will be turned in).

This activity will culminate with a small-group discussion.

Reading Selections (You must read and respond to 6 of these pieces):

“How Fish-Hawk Raided the Sioux” (61)

“Coyote and the Strawberries” (125)

“Bloody Fingers” (253)

“Another Remarkable Shot” (108)

“Paul Bunyan’s Logging at Shoreacres” (164)

“Buried Treasure from a Spanish Galleon” (187)

“Finn Upholds His Reputation as a Liar” (78)

“Tebo’s Pet Fish” (83)

“The Biggest Catch” (105)

“Lavender” (239)

Response Questions (Answer all four questions for each piece read):

1. Identify the type of folk literature this piece represents (myth, legend, folktale, tall tale, urban legend). What in the piece helps it to be identified as that type of folk literature?
2. What is the point of this piece (to entertain, educate, inform, etc.)? Explain how you came to your decision.
3. If humour was used in this piece: to what effect was the humour used?
If no humour was used in this piece: why wasn’t humour needed/appropriate for this piece?
4. Explain why this piece would or would not be more engaging if you heard it orally instead of as a written text.

Note: Make sure to write the title of each story prior to writing responses.

Example:

“The Biggest Catch”

1. This story would count as...