# Folktales

## Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library
### A Selective Annotated Selective Bibliography

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexile Score</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
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<td>EASY</td>
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<td>Two rascally weavers convince the emperor they are making him beautiful new clothes, visible only to those fit for their posts, but during a royal procession in which he first wears them, a child-whispers that the emperor has nothing on.</td>
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<td>Relates episodes from the life of Johnny Appleseed, a peaceful man who roamed the West for fifty years planting and tending to the trees that bore his favorite fruit, the apple.</td>
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<td>In this adaptation of the traditional folktale, three little dassies (also called rock hyraxes) build their houses in the Namib Desert of Southern Africa, hoping for protection from the eagle that lives atop a nearby mountain.</td>
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<td>Relates some of the exploits of Paul Bunyan, a lumberjack said to be taller than the</td>
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trees whose pet was a blue ox named Babe.


A retelling of the traditional Mexican tale explaining the origins of molé, the savory chocolate sauce that is served over turkey or chicken.

430 MacDonald, Margaret Read. *Go to Sleep, Gecko! A Balinese Folktale.* Little Rock, AR: August House LittleFolk, 2006. (Other titles by author include *Fat Cat: A Danish Folktale* and *Mabel the Clever*)

Retells the folktale of the gecko who complains to the village chief that the fireflies keep him awake at night but then learns that in nature all things are connected.


Think you know the story of the three little pigs? Not until you've read James Marshall's tongue-in-cheek rendition! Marshall breathes fresh new life into this old stand-by -- incorporating spicy new dialogue and fun, cartoon-like illustrations while still remaining true to the original tale of three porcine brothers and one huffing-and-puffing wolf.


A pied piper rids the city of Hamelin of rats in this retelling of the classic tale.


Epossumondas's mother tells him a story about how his great-great-grandfather became the first possum to have a hairless tail.


When they try to find out who is doing their chores while they are working in the field, a childless couple discovers that the two stones they have brought home are actually two bewitched orphans.

When Isabella, a beautiful but lazy young woman, agrees to marry an equally lazy prince, the sorceress who raised her gives her the head of a goat in hopes that she will learn to do things for herself.


A retelling of an Eastern European tale in which Shlemazel, the laziest man in town, is tricked into believing that the lucky spoon given to him by a neighbor will bring him fortune and fame, if it is used in the right way.

FICTION


In an ancient Arab nation, one woman dares to be different. Buran cannot -- Buran will not sit quietly at home and wait to be married to the man her father chooses.


Will Scarlet shadows Robin Hood, with an unerring eye for finding treasures to steal and throwing daggers with deadly accuracy, but when Gisbourne, a ruthless bounty hunter, is hired by the sheriff to capture Robin and his band of thieves, Robin must become Will’s protector risking his own life in the process.


The tale of Sinbad the sailor, who goes to sea in search of great riches and discovers even greater adventures. On his seven treacherous voyages, the Persian explorer braves a shipwreck, fights off savage cannibals, and battles a giant cyclops, hoping to survive and tell his legendary story.


Collects over twenty trickster stories, in graphic novel format, from various Native American traditions, including tales about coyotes, rabbits, ravens, and other crafty creatures and their mischievous activities.
NONFICTION


This enchanting book delves into the history of *folktales*, or stories made up by peoples around the world to teach important values to their children.


Super-cowboy *Pecos Bill* leaps onto the back of a monstrous cyclone and rides it like a bucking bronco, creating, in the process, the Colorado River, the Grand Canyon, and Death Valley.


A collection of folk tales from North Carolina and Virginia.


Retells fourteen American *folktales* focusing on the role animals played in American pioneer heritage.


A freshly bake *gingerbread man* escapes when he is taken out of *the* oven and eludes a number of pursuers until he meets a clever fox.

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION


8 short read-aloud plays with engaging activities that build reading skills, add spark to social studies lessons, and explore diverse cultures.

Reproducible comic book-style retellings that introduce kids to great American *folk* heroes and motivate all readers.

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