# My Personal Folktale

## **Background**

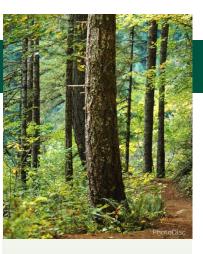
People can learn a great deal about other cultures by studying their folktales, many of which focus on aspects of nature. The website <a href="www.spiritoftrees.org">www.spiritoftrees.org</a> has an outstanding collection of folktales related to trees and searchable according to category, country of origin and tree type. You can view the collection either online or via a printed list of titles.

# **Activity**

- 1. Visit <u>www.spiritoftrees.org</u> and choose folktales to share with the class or group.
- 2. Talk about folktales and discuss with the class or group folktales that they know and those that are part of their culture or are meaningful to them.
- 3. Read aloud with the group one or more of the folktales you selected.
- 4. After reading the folktale talk about the deeper meaning behind the story and how it may relate to today.
- 5. Have each student create their own folktale with an environmental theme. What experiences will the characters have? How will the characters react?
- 6. Students should share their folktales with the class or group.

## **Extension**

Visit a local museum or other cultural center and learn about the folktales of your community and region.



## **Objectives**

- Read and Discuss a diverse collection of folktales connected to trees
- Create a folktale that reflects a unique environmental perspective

### **Grade Level**

9-12

#### Subjects

Social Studies, Creative Writing

## Materials

- Folktales related to trees—see the website www.spiritoftrees.org
- Paper
- Pens or pencils

