



Timeless Tales

You are living your very own “timeless tale” that began before you were even born! How much do you know about it?

- ❖ Read for 105 minutes this week (15 minutes each day). 1 pt.

- ❖ There is a story that you are a part of right now...your family story! Some of us have simple stories like trees that have just budded and only have a few years of growth. Some of us have stories that are like trees with many, many branches. Some of us have record of our family story from many, many years ago to the present. Write down the names of the people in your family story. Decide how big your “family tree” will be. Draw the tree with its branches. Using different colors to symbolize each generation, gender of the family member, or extended families make a dot and label it. Again, if you cut apart a paper grocery bag, you will have a large area to accomplish this in. Or come see Mrs. Johnson...I have large pieces of drawing paper. 1 pt.

- ❖ Sometimes these family stories are lost as people forget them and the people that they are about have died. It is an excellent idea to gather these stories and memories from your oldest living relatives first. If you have fun with this assignment, you might want to make it a little broader by adding the next generation. Create a “Family Question Workbook”. You can purchase a spiral bound notebook at some stores for a small amount of money (under a dollar). You will need notebooks that do not have too many pages in them. Think of some questions that you want to ask these older relatives: What were some of your chores when you were little? What jobs did your mom and dad have? Where did you go to school? Who was your best friend? What did you do in your free time/play time? Then go through and label each of the pages with the questions. Gift that relative with the notebook, ask them to respond to the questions and give the notebook back to you. This is a very interesting activity with many rewards, including a stronger sense of family. Maybe you will become your family's historian! 1 pt.

- ❖ Before our nation was routed in cities and towns much of the population roamed looking for their space. Think wagon trains, cowboys, explorers, hunters. Much time while traveling was spent around a campfire where the cooking was done and some mighty fine storytelling occurred. Since

there was no TV or video, the stories were very descriptive. Try your hand at creating a new campfire story. If you need a jump start check out these two books at the library: Campfire Stories for Kids and Campfire Stories: Tales from Our National Parks. Your story is only limited by your imagination!!

1 pt.

❖ Once you have your campfire story written, test it out around a campfire! Do not forget to add the traditional snacks like toasted marshmallows sandwiched between chocolate and graham crackers. There will be little light to read your story, so memorizing will be the best way to allow your listeners to feel its full effect.

1 pt.

❖ Tall tales are stories that are full of fantastical, off-the-wall exaggerations of events and things. Can you name any heroes from a tall tale? **Write that character's name in the space below.**

1 pt.

❖ Try writing your own tall tale. Who would it be about? How can you exaggerate events or character traits of your main character? After writing a 4-paragraph story, illustrate it in the medium of your choice: crayons, markers, paints, collage, etc.

1 pt.

❖ **Tall Tale Mad Lib**

Once upon a time there was a _____ (noun) named _____ (name) who was so _____ (adjective) that he could _____ (verb) the _____ (noun). His favorite thing to do was _____ (verb) with the _____ (noun). He had a _____ (animal) named _____ (name) who was so _____ (adjective) that it/he/she could _____ (a favorite activity) in _____ (amount of time). They liked to play together, especially _____ (game). Whenever they played _____ (same game as before), the neighborhood _____ (profession) would hide under their _____ (piece of furniture).

One day while they were playing, they found a _____ (mythical creature) who was crying. Its _____ (body part) was stuck in a _____ (noun) and the _____ (same mythical creatures as before) couldn't get loose. So they and thought about what they could do to help. Finally, _____ (same animal as before) had an idea! "Let's _____ (verb) some _____ (noun) onto its paw.

1 pt.