

GRADE: 3rd - Adults

TIME: 1 hour

SEASON: All

TALL TALES

NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHING STANDARDS

A. Science as **INQUIRY**

B. PHYSICAL Science

C. LIFE Science

D. EARTH Science

E. Science **TECHNOLOGY**

F. Science in **PERSONAL** and **SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE**

G. HISTORY and **NATURE** of Science

Background Information

This activity is designed to entertain students in a creative, lively manner, while infusing them with knowledge related to our natural resources. It is NOT designed to frighten or leave students with false impressions. Presenters are only limited by their imagination and good sense. The ideas included are intended to guide you.

Objective

- The objective is for students to learn about natural resources in a fun and interactive way.
- This activity involves both students and adults (teachers and chaperones).

Pre Activity:

- Discuss what a Tall Tale is...extreme exaggeration! Find several Tall Tales in your students' reading sources or in the library. Read them to the students. Have them identify what was exaggerated.
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Procedure

1. Select a location and seating arrangement that will allow all the students to see the objects. Keep in mind that the Tall Tale Collection is a one-of-a-kind collection, and most of the items are not easy to replace. The fire rings seem to add to the excitement of the game, but this activity can also be done in the classrooms.
2. Have one person designated as the Master of Ceremonies (teacher) and explain the game to the students. (This person will also keep score.)
3. Have presenters (usually teachers and chaperones) get together and choose an items and the corresponding card. This card tells the truth about the object, but also has suggestions for Tall Tales.
4. Let the presenters have time to prepare. Have them read the truth and think of a possible Tall Tale to tell the students.

5. Have each presenter get in front of the audience and have them tell their story about the object (either truth or tale).
6. After the story has been told, the MC will then have the students vote whether the story was true or a tale.
7. If a Tall Tale was told, please make sure to tell the students the true story.

Post Activity:

- Have students bring some “tall tale” artifacts from home (i.e. nature items like fossils, feathers, bones, shells). Have the students work in teams to write stories about the artifacts; and let them be the storytellers this time. As at Springbrook, let the other students decide if the tale was true or false. Be sure the students then tell the true story about the artifact.

Post Discussion:

- Discuss archeology and the “digs” archeologists go on. How do they know the true story behind the artifacts they find?
- Discuss how conferring with other scientists is key to accurate analyses.
- Discuss the importance of finding these artifacts, and how it tells our history!