

The Stuff of Legend

"The Ballad of John Henry" is an American legend. But what does that mean? Legend is a genre, the word for a type of story with similar features. While legends includes many different stories and characters, some elements reappear and help us to identify the type of story we're reading. In this activity, you will find examples of four elements of legend from "The Ballad of John Henry."

Directions: Read "The Ballad of John Henry" and fill in each box with examples from the play of each of the elements of the legend genre listed below.

<p>1. The story is based on some truth.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>3. The story has been passed on through time.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>2. The story features a larger-than-life figure.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p>4. The story includes an amazing feat.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>