

## **Myth Vocabulary**

### **Legend:**

- Traditional story about the past
- based on real people/events
- passed down by word of mouth.
- Details increasingly exaggerated.
- Have fantastic details, larger than life characters, amazing feats.
- Reveals culture's attitudes/values.

### **Folktales:**

- Communicates values/ideals.
- Composed orally.
- Passed by word of mouth.
- Anonymous.
- Has heroes, amazing feats of strength or daring.
- Solves problems.
- Uses repetition to make easy to remember.
- To be authentic, must have at least two versions

### **Myth:**

- Stories about gods and heroes.
- Deals with right/wrong.
- Explains world in human terms.
- Explains natural occurrences.

### **Fable:**

- Teaches lessons at end of story.
- Short.
- Underdeveloped characters, situations, conflicts.
- Animals act like humans.
- Points out our human failings/weaknesses.

**Folklore:** Records the customs, traditions, and beliefs of people.

**Yarn:** A tale or story filled with exaggeration. The subject is the best, worst, or most unusual of its kind.

**Conflict:** A struggle between opposing forces. It can be internal or external.

**Folkhero:** An extraordinary person, glorified for his/her wonderful qualities that are far superior to the common man.

**Exaggeration:** Overstatement, often used for a humorous effect.