



Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, Inc.  
8 Mountain View Avenue  
Albany, NY 12205  
(518)489-8110 Fax (518)489-8065  
www.girlscoutsneny.org

## Myths, Legends, and Fairy Tales

Leave today behind and escape into your imagination in the world of Myths, Legends, and Fairy Tales. Take this opportunity to read and learn about a universe where the fragile lines between history and legend, reality and imagination, begin to disappear.

Spend time with King Arthur at the Round Table, march to distant lands on a quest for the Holy Grail, or follow the struggle between good and evil in Camelot. Read the fables and tales you remember from your youth, such as Aesop's Fables, Grimm's Fairy Tales, or the work of Hans Christian Andersen.

Here is an opportunity to introduce girls, firsthand, to the myths and legends of old that still surround us.

When you have completed the patch program you may purchase patches from the GSNENY Store.

### Requirements

Daisies - 3 activities\*  
Brownies - 4 activities\*  
Juniors - 5 activities



\* Daisy and younger Brownies may have stories read to them or watch movies if they are too young to read for themselves.

### Activities

1. America is alive with folklore. We are a country of yarns, legends, ghosts, and superstitions. Who has not heard of Pecos Bill, Johnny Appleseed, John Henry, Casey and his bat, Superman, or Rip Van Winkle? Our imagination has created lore, not of kings, fairies, or wishes from a lamp, but of humor and outrageous invention. Visit a library to find books of American folklore or visit some websites with the help of an adult. Ask each girl to read and take notes from one or two stories and to repeat them to the rest of the troop. Create a three-dimensional picture showing American folklore. Some good websites to visit are:
2. Native American Indian tales are bound together with a common theme - a universal concern with fundamental issues about the world in which humans live. Many tales contain the experiences of a particular tribe with migrations, natural disasters, and other major events. Visit the library to find books or visit some websites with the help of an adult for American Indian myths and legends. Ask each girl to research one or two tales and tell them to the troop. Some good websites to visit are:  
[Stories - Native Americans in Olden Times for Kids](#)  
[Native American Legends \(Folklore, Myths, and Traditional Indian Stories\)](#) – This site breaks down the tales by tribe and covers a great deal of territory.
3. Ask the troop to prepare a story hour of American folklore or Native Indian tales. Help them choose short stories appropriate for a younger troop. Then assist the girls in finding a troop and set a date for their story hour. Perhaps they would like to include puppets or story boards in their presentations.

4. Fairy Tales are often a favorite among children. They allow a child's imagination to roam to magical places of mermaids, dragons, elves, and fairies. Ask the girls to bring Fairy Tale books to a troop meeting. Take turns reading aloud from two or three chosen stories. Providing paper, pencil and crayons, ask each girl to draw one or two characters from the stories. Discuss how the same character may appear very different in each girl's drawing since each girl's imagination envisions different characteristics.
5. Ask the girls to choose a favorite Fairy Tale they would like to tell to a younger troop. Using a variety of scrap and craft materials, help them create puppet characters for the story. These may be in the form of finger, stick, bag, hand puppets, or marionettes. The girls may also want to create a stage and backdrops. Help the girls contact a younger troop and set a date to present their puppet show.
6. Ancient civilizations developed their own stories and folklore. Visit a library to find books on the histories of ancient civilizations. Choose 3 different civilizations and read about their history. Suggestions are: Celtic, Hebrew, Mayan, Greek, Chinese, African, or Egyptian history. Discuss how some of these legends are still in use today.
7. Greek mythology is rich in stories of beautiful goddesses, valiant heroes, and terrible monsters. Find Greek Mythology books, websites with stories or the library, and ask each girl to read one or two stories and tell them to the rest of the troop. Ask the girls what, if any, of these stories might be based on actual characters or happenings.

Some good websites for different Greek Myths are:

[Greek Mythology for Kids and Teachers - Ancient Greece for Kids](#)

[Greek Mythology - Ancient Greece for Kids!](#)

8. The continent of Africa has had generations of tribal life that have lived in close proximity to its wildlife. This has produced a legacy reflecting a fascinating picture of the land and its people. Search the library for books of the folklore and mythology of the African people. As a troop, read several animal tales. Ask each girl to choose a different animal, and with the aid of reference books prepare a small report to give to the rest of the troop. Include information such as description, habitat (in the past and now) diet, height, weight, number of young, habits, lifespan, and danger of extinction.
9. Ask the girls to create their own fable, folktale, legend, or myth. They may want to work individually or in small groups. When they write their story ask them to create pictures and a book cover.

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## PATCH PROGRAM EVALUATION

Council \_\_\_\_\_ Troop \_\_\_\_\_ Service Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Age Level \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip

Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Our troop of \_\_\_\_\_ girls worked on and completed the \_\_\_\_\_ Patch Program.

Please complete the following evaluation with responses from the girls.

1. Why did you choose this program? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How much time did you spend on it? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What outside resources did you use? (people, facilities, equipment, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What part did you like best? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What would you do differently another time? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What are some things you learned to do for the first time or better? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. How did the adults feel about the program? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Patches may be purchased from the GSNENY Store.  
Evaluations may be submitted to Linda Stephen, lstephen@girlscoutsneny.org