**Tall Tales**

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**A tall tale is a story that has these features:**

**A larger-than-life, or superhuman, main character with a specific job.**

**A problem that is solved in a funny way.**

**Exaggerated details that describe things as greater than they really are.**

**Characters who use everyday language.**

[**How did Tall Tales get started?**](http://faculty.hasd.org/Dawn_Hietpas/#internallinks)

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**Settlers who made their homes in the American wilderness first told tall tales. In those days, before TV and movies, people depended on storytelling for entertainment. After a long day's work, people gathered to tell each other funny tales.**

**Each group of workers-loggers, cowboys, railroad and steel workers-had its own tall-tale hero. Having a superhuman hero with the same job somehow made their lives easier. Perhaps it gave them strength or courage to do their difficult and dangerous work.**

* Your first step is to create your own tall tale hero or heroine.
* Name of Hero or heroine:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Character traints: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Remember, the key is to EXAGGERATE your hero's characteristics. Make him or her bigger or stronger or faster or smarter than anyone else!
* Now you need an adventure for your tall tale hero. Once again, the key is to EXAGGERATE. The main event of a tall tale is **not something that can happen in real life.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of tall tale hero) (describing words like: toughest, smartest)

man/woman in the state of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Everyone for

 (state name)

miles around knew \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and loved to tell and

 (hero's name)

retell of his/her amazing feats. Now one day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (hero's name)

went to visit \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had been

 (2nd character's name) (2nd character's name)

having big problems with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ explained his/her problem. That was all it took.

(2nd character's name)

Right away, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(how the hero solved the problem)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ problem was solved, and the folks in

(2nd character's name)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ now had a new tale to tell about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

(state name) (hero's name)