

**Common Core Standards Addressed:**

RL.3.2 Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

**Arkansas Social Studies Frameworks Addressed:**

H.13.3.1 Explain how multiple perspectives are portrayed through historical narratives.

**Learning Goals:**

**Students will...**

<p><b>Understand</b> that folktales are different in every country, and can tell us a lot about different cultures.</p>	
<p><b>Know</b> The definition of folktale: a story or legend originating in popular culture, usually passed down orally.</p>	<p><b>Do</b> Compare and contrast American folktales to a folktales from another country .</p>

**Materials Needed:**

*The Hunter: A Chinese Folktale* by Mary Casanova

[www.americanfolklore.net](http://www.americanfolklore.net)

Pencils/pens

Construction paper

**Procedures:**

- Read aloud *The Hunter* by Mary Casanova.
- Explain that this is a folktale originating in China.
- Discuss with students: What is a folktale?
  - Folklore comes from oral tradition, and is passed down through generations.
  - By reading folktales, we can learn a lot about the countries they came from.
- What are some famous American folktales?
- Have students read a famous American folktale on their own.
  - [www.americanfolklore.net](http://www.americanfolklore.net) is a great resource with a variety of brief folktales .
  - Various folktales can also be found at Bentonville Public library, for example:
    - *American Tall Tales* by Mary Pope Osborn [JNF 398.22 OSB]
    - *The Rabbit and the Turtle & Other Aesop's Fables* by Eric Carle [JNF 398.2 CAR]
    - *John Henry* by Julius Lester [JNF 398.21 LES]
- Students will then compare and contrast the folktale they read with *The Hunter*.
- Have students use the construction paper to create a graphic organizer.
  - Fold the paper in half and then unfold.
  - Fold each side of the paper (lengthwise) to the middle line.
  - On the left side of the folded paper, have students write *The Hunter*
  - On the right, students should write the name of the folktale story they read.
  - Have students write key ideas & morals from each story on their folded paper.
- Discuss: why do you think different countries and cultures have different folklores? Why are folklores important to cultures?
- For an extension, students could compare traditional folktales from more countries.

Learn about Mary Casanova at

<http://www.bentonvillelibrary.org/assets/YLF/pdfs/casanova-bio.pdf>.