

Subject Guides

Fairytales, Folklore, & Fables

Greenwood Public Library



This pathfinder is designed to help you locate all kinds of information on Fairytales, Folklore, and Fables. It focuses on materials relevant for students grades K-12; these materials include [online searches](#), [print materials](#), [multimedia items](#), [websites](#), and [teacher resources/activities](#).

Once upon a time...fairytales, folklore, and fables have been passed down from generation to generation. Storytellers, at their best, engage the audience, teach lessons, and transport the listener to different worlds with just a few words.

The print materials and multimedia materials were located using the Greenwood Public Library Evergreen search website, and they may all be located at Greenwood Public Library. The electronic materials were located through Google searches and other online databases.

Keywords & Searching Tips

When searching for information through an electronic database or Internet search engine, you may find more or stronger resources by using the following tips:

When looking for a particular phrase, such as *Brothers Grimm*, surround the phrase with quotation marks ("Brothers Grimm"). This ensures that your results will include this entire phrase, rather than just "Brothers" or "Grimm."

If you do not want something in your results, put a minus sign (-) in front of it. For example, if I do not want information regarding *Cinderella* in my Fairy Tale search, I could type: "Fairy Tales"-Cinderella.

If you want to search for more than one phrase at the same time, use the word "OR" between the phrases. For example, if I searched "Fairy Tales" OR "Rapunzel," I can locate materials that use either of these phrases.

You can narrow down your search even further by using the word "AND." If I want to research Aesop's Fables, I can search "Aesop" AND "Fables" to get more appropriate results.

Try using the following search terms to locate various materials regarding Fairytales, Folklore, & Fables.

- Fairy Tales
- Classic Fairy Tales
- Folklore
- American Folklore
- World Folklore
- Native American Folklore

- Fables
- Fables, American
- Fables, Greek
- Brothers Grimm
- Grimm, Jacob
- Grimm, Wilhelm
- Mother Goose
- Hans Christian Anderson
- Aesop
- Russian Fairy Tales
- German Fairy Tales
- Chinese Fairy Tales (etc. substitute the region you are looking for + “Fairy Tales)

If looking for information on a particular person important to the study of Astronomy and space science, type their last name, first name. For example, “Anderson, Hans Christian.”

If looking for a particular Fairy Tale or story, type the name of the main character such as “Robin Hood”, “King Arthur”, or “Cinderella”.

Multimedia

The following multimedia items contain both educational and recreational materials regarding Fairytales, Folklore, and Fables. The comprised list does not include all of the library’s holding on the subject. For additional information, search the catalog by selecting “video recordings” from the drop down menu and type in a keyword.

[Sleeping Beauty](#) Princess Aurora is doomed to die from a curse on her sixteenth birthday, but a good fairy alters the curse to have her fall into a deep sleep, to be awakened only by the kiss of her true love.

[The Wild Swans & Other Stories](#) "The wild swans": Elisa's the happiest little princess in the world until her father brings home his evil new bride. The new Queen enchants her father, banishes Elisa from the palace, and turns her brothers into swans. "The beetle": Barty the Beetle is full of guff and bluster. He is terribly insulted that he doesn't get golden shoes like those the royal war horse is getting. "The tinderbox": A soldier, on the road home from a war, meets an old witch. She promises him riches if he will go down into a tree trunk and bring her back some treasure and an old tinderbox.

[The Nightingale & Other Stories](#) The Emperor of China has a plain-looking bird that sings the most exquisite song. When a beautiful toy bird is sent to the Emperor, will he think it's better than the real nightingale, and what will happen to the live bird?

[The Princess and the Pea & Other Stories](#) A young woman must pass a test to prove that she is truly a princess. Sleeping atop 20 mattresses, can she feel the small pea the prince's mother placed under the bottom one? Plus, three more stories based on the classic fairy tales of the Danish storyteller, Hans Christian Andersen.

[Snow White and the Seven Dwarves](#) A young princess goes into hiding with seven dwarfs when her stepmother tries to murder her and then she meets her Prince Charming.

[Robin Hood](#) The spirit of fun and romance abounds as Robin Hood, the swashbuckling hero of Sherwood Forest, and his valiant sidekick, Little John, plot one daring adventure after another.

[The Sword in the Stone](#) The story of the magical sword in the stone, which young Arthur pulled out to become king.

[King Arthur](#) Examines the fifth century British war leader and the myth of the perfect medieval king. Features authentic re-creations and reconstructions, footage from Arthurian sites all over Britain, great art inspired by the Arthurian Legend, and commentary by Arthurian authorities.

[The Brothers Grimm](#) 19th-century "folklore collectors," Wilhem and Jacob Grimm are con artists who perform bogus exorcisms of "evil enchantments" while traveling from village to village in French-occupied Germany. The two soon find themselves ensnared in a genuinely supernatural crisis involving the curse of the Mirror Queen and other such fantastical marvels as the Big Bad Wolf, the Gingerbread Man, and other truly enchanted flora and fauna. A manic villain and a serious fantasy involving the beautiful Angelika, proves to be the Grimm Brothers' most reliable ally.

[The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad](#) An animated musical version of Washington Irving's tale about a gangly schoolmaster and a headless ghost who haunts the Hudson River region.

Fiction/Nonfiction Books

Nonfiction : Grades K-5

[The McElderry Book of Aesop's Fables](#) by Michael Morpurgo Retellings of twenty-one classic Aesop fables, including "The Hare and the Tortoise" and "Belling the Cat," in updated language. Suggested Level: Grades Preschool-2nd

[The Best of Aesop's Fables](#) by Margaret Clark A collection of Aesop's fables with an emphasis on their ability to entertain rather than moralize. Suggested Level: Grades Preschool-2nd

[Fables](#) by Arnold Lobel Tells the stories of a selfish lion, lovesick ostrich, greedy hippopotamus, vain rhinoceros, proud camel, the timid duck sisters, and others, and the lessons that they learned. Suggested Level: Grades Preschool-3rd

[Read Me a Fairy Tale: a child's book of classic fairy tales](#) by Rose Impey Fourteen classic fairy tales, most of which are traditional. Suggested Level: Grades Preschool-4th

[Eric Carle's Treasury of Classic Stories for Children by Aesop, Hans Christian Andersen, and the Brothers Grimm](#) by Eric Carle An illustrated retelling of twenty-two folktales, fairy tales, and fables.

[**You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: very short fairy tales to read together**](#) by Mary Ann Hoberman Presents a collection of short retellings of familiar Mother Goose fairy tales, each told in two voices designed especially for young children and adults to read together.

[**Grimm's Fairy Tales**](#) by Arthur Rackham A collection of twenty favorite fairy tales from the Brothers Grimm, including "Rapunzel," "The Bremen Town Musicians," "The Valiant Tailor", "The Frog Prince," "Ashenputtel," and "The Elves and the Shoemaker." Suggested Level: Grades Kindergarten-5th

[**The hidden folk : stories of fairies, dwarves, selkies, and other secret beings**](#) by Lisa Lunge-Larsen Brief stories featuring such creatures as flower fairies, elves, dwarves, and river sprites.

[**The Three Princes: a Tale from the Middle East**](#) by Eric A. Kimmel A princess promises to marry the prince who finds the most precious treasure.

[**The Brocaded Slipper and Other Vietnamese Tales**](#) by Lynette Dyer A collection of five Vietnamese fairy tales, including "Little Finger of the Watermelon Patch" and "The Lampstand Princess."

[**The Girl Who Helped Thunder and Other Native American Folktales**](#) by James Bruchac Twenty-four Native American legends and tales from across the United States capture a wide range of belief systems and wisdom from the Cherokee, Cheyenne, Hopi, Lenape, Maidu, Seminole, Seneca, and other tribes. The beautifully retold tales, each with an informative introduction, range from creation stories and animal fables to stirring accounts of bravery and sacrifice. Suggested Level: Grades 3-6

[**African Mythology**](#) by Geoffrey Parrinder The mythology of sub-Saharan Africa, including beliefs on creation, birth, death, and oracles, with texts of some legends and animal fables.

[**Complete Fairy Tales**](#) by Charles Perrault

[**English Folk and Fairy Tales from many lands**](#) by Joseph Jacobs

Fiction : Grades K-5

[**Bernelly and Harriet: the country mouse and the city mouse**](#) by Elizabeth Dahlie Updates Aesop's fable as Bernelly, a fly-fishing instructor, is introduced to the excitement of city life by her cousin, Harriet, who then accompanies Bernelly to the peaceful countryside in search of artistic inspiration.

[**Rabbit's Gift a Fable from China**](#) by George Shannon Woodland animals, each thinking of his neighbor, share a turnip left on their doorstep.

[**Chanticleer and the Fox**](#) by Geoffrey Chaucer and Barbara Cooney A sly fox tries to outwit a proud rooster through the use of flattery.

[The Monkey and the Crocodile](#) by Paul Galdone A retelling of one of the Indian fables relating to the former births of Buddha in which as a monkey he manages to outwit the crocodile who decides to capture him.

[The Complete Book of Dragons](#) by E. Nesbit

[The Tale of the Mandarin Ducks](#) by Katherine Paterson A pair of mandarin ducks, separated by a cruel lord who wishes to possess the drake for his colorful beauty, reward a compassionate couple who risk their lives to reunite the ducks.

[The Bird, the Frog and the Light](#) by Avi

[Seven Blind Mice](#) by Ed Young Retells in verse the Indian fable of the blind men discovering different parts of an elephant and arguing about its appearance. The illustrations depict the blind arguers as mice.

[The Adventures of Pinocchio](#) by Carlo Collodi The adventures of a mischievous wooden puppet, who wants more than anything else to become a real boy. Suggested Level: Grades 1-4

[Snoring Beauty](#) by Bruce Hale An adaptation of the traditional tale, featuring a sleeping, snoring princess who is rescued by a prince after being cursed by a bad fairy.

[Jack and the Seven Deadly Giants](#) by Sam Swope While hoping to find his mother, Jack encounters seven deadly giants: the Giant Poet, the Terrible Glutton, Mrs. Roth, the Wild Tickler, Avaritch, Orgulla the Great, and the Green Queen.

[The Ordinary Princess](#) by M. M. Kaye At her christening a princess is given the gift of "ordinariness" by a fairy, and the consequences of that eventually take her to a nearby palace where, having run away to become a fourteenth assistant kitchen maid, she meets the prince for her.

[Noble Hearted Kate: a Celtic Tale](#) by Marianna Mayer Using elements of traditional Celtic lore, relates how Kate helps her stepsister Meghan to break the spell that has given her the head of a sheep.

The Princess Tales Series by Gail Carson Levine Suggested Level: Grades 3-6

- [The Fairy's Mistake](#) In this humorous retelling of a Perrault tale, the fairy Ethelinda rewards one twin sister for good behavior and punishes the other for bad, only to discover that her punishment is more pleasing than her reward.
- [The Princess Test](#) In this humorous retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Princess and the Pea," Lorelei must pass many difficult tests in order to prove that she is a true princess and win the hand of Prince Nicholas.
- [Princess Sonora and the Long Sleep](#) In this retelling of the fairy tale Sleeping Beauty, Princess Sonora, who is ten times smarter than anyone else, vows to choose for herself the best time to be pricked by the spindle.
- [Cinderellis and the Glass Hill](#) In this humorous retelling of a Perrault tale, a lonely young farm lad uses his unusual inventive ability to pass a nearly impossible test and win the hand of the neighboring princess.

- [For Biddle's Sake](#) In this humorous retelling of Andrew Lang's "Puddocky," a young maiden who has been transformed into a toad by a jealous fairy relies on her newly honed magical abilities to charm a prince into marriage.
- [The Fairy's Return](#) The good-natured son of a baker wins the heart of a princess, with the help of a fairy and a magic goose.
- [The Secret Prince](#) by D. Anne Love Informed at the age of twelve that he is the long-awaited prince of Kelhadden, Thorn sets off on a quest to find the magical amulet that will enable him to dethrone the evil usurper, Ranulf.

[The Prophecy of the Stones](#) by Flavia Bujor Three girls, known as the Stones of Prophecy, are drawn to a land called Fairytale, where they and a man called the Chosen One seek Oonagh, a magical creature who explains their role in a battle between Good and Evil.

NonFiction : Grades 6-12

[Favorite Folktales from around the World](#) by Jane Yolen

[English Fable and Fairy Stories](#) by James Reeves

[The Annotated Hans Christian Andersen](#) by Hans Christian Andersen

[A Treasury of North American Folktales](#) by Catherine Peck

[Indiana Folklore](#) by Linda Degh

[Great American Folklore](#) by Kemp D. Battle

[The Book of Virtues](#) by William Bennett

[The Complete Fables of Jean de la Fontaine](#) by Jean de la Fontaine

[Fairy Tales](#) by Jann Einfeld

Fiction : Grades 6-12

[Ella Enchanted](#) by Gail Carson Levine In this novel based on the story of Cinderella, Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her. Suggested Level: Grades 4-8 (YA LEV)

[The Frog Princess](#) by E. D. Baker After reluctantly kissing a frog, an awkward, fourteen-year-old princess suddenly finds herself a frog, too, and sets off with the prince to seek the means--and the self-confidence--to become human again. Suggested Level: Grades 4-8 (YA BAK)

Septimus Heap Series by Angie Sage Suggested Level: Grades 4-8 (YA SAG)

- [Magyk](#) After learning that she is the Princess, Jenna is whisked from her home and carried toward safety by the Extraordinary Wizard, those she always believed were her father and brother, and a young guard known only as Boy 412--pursued by agents of those who killed her mother ten years earlier.
- [Flyte](#) When Princess Jenna is pursued by a dark wizard, it is the apprentice, Septimus Heap, who must save her while enduring such terrors as a night in the Forest with hungry wolverines and carnivorous trees.
- [Physik](#) Pulled through a glass that brings him back in time, Septimus Heap becomes the apprentice of an alchemist.
- [Queste](#) Nicki and Snorri are trapped in Time, and Septimus Heap goes on a quest to find the House of Foryx, a place where all Time meets.
- [Syren](#) Wolf Boy is sent on a Task by Aunt Zelda, while Septimus and the dragon, Spit Fyre, fly off to bring their friends home, but they all wind up on an island whose secrets are as dangerous as its inhabitants.

Enchanted Forest Chronicles by Patricia C. Wrede Suggested Level: Grades 5-9 (YA WRE)

- [Dealing with Dragons](#) Bored with traditional palace life, a princess goes off to live with a group of dragons and soon becomes involved with fighting against some disreputable wizards.
- [Searching for Dragons](#) With the aid of King Mandanbar, Princess Cimorene rescues the dragon Kazul and saves the Enchanted Forest from a band of wicked wizards.
- [Calling on Dragons](#) Queen Cimorene turns to her friends Morwen, Telemain, and Kazul for help when troublesome wizards make their way back into the Enchanted Forest and begin to soak up its magic.
- [Talking to Dragons](#) Queen Cimorene sends her sixteen-year-old son Daystar into the Enchanted Forest with the only weapon that can combat an evil wizard's magic in an effort to restore the balance of power in the kingdom.

[Sebastian Darke: Prince of Fools](#) by Philip Caveney Accompanied by his sardonic buffalope Max, seventeen-year-old Sebastian Darke meets a spoiled princess and a diminutive soldier who aid in his quest to become court jester to the evil King Septimus. Suggested Level: Grades 6-8 (YA CAV)

[The Rose and the Beast: Fairy tales retold](#) by Francesca Lia Block Presents nine classic fairy tales set in modern, magical landscapes and retold with a twist. Suggested Level: Grades 6 and up (YA BLO)

[Spinners](#) by Donna Jo Napoli Elaborates on the events recounted in the fairy tale, "Rumpelstiltskin," in which a strange little man helps a miller's daughter spin straw into gold for the king on the condition that she will give him her first-born child. Suggested Level: Grades 6 and up (YA NAP)

[Spindle's End](#) by Robin McKinley The infant princess Briar Rose is cursed on her name day by Pernicia, an evil fairy, and then whisked away by a young fairy to be raised in a remote part of a magical country, unaware of her real identity and hidden from Pernicia's vengeful powers. Suggested Level: Grades 6 and up (YA MCK)

[Princess of the Midnight Ball](#) by Jessica Day George A retelling of the tale of twelve princesses who wear out their shoes dancing every night, and of Galen, a former soldier now working in the king's gardens, who follows them in hopes of breaking the curse. Suggested Level: Grades 6-10 (YA GEO)

[Wildwood Dancing](#) by Juliet Marillier Five sisters who live with their merchant father in Transylvania use a hidden portal in their home to cross over into a magical world, the Wildwood. Suggested Level: Grades 8 and up (YA MAR)

[Ella Minnow Pea](#) by Mark Dunn The language-loving inhabitants of a South Carolina island interpret the falling of the letter "Z" from a beloved monument as a divine warning not to use the letter any longer. But catastrophe is imminent when the other letters in the monument--which contains the entire alphabet--begin falling one by one. Suggested Level: Grades 9 and up (YA DUN)

[Fables: Legends in exile \(Graphic Novel\)](#) by Bill Willingham Who killed Rose Red? In Fabletown, where fairy tale legends live alongside regular New Yorkers, the question is all anyone can talk about. But only the Big Bad Wolf can actually solve the case - and, along with Rose's sister Snow White, keep the Fabletown community from coming apart at the seams. Suggested Level: Grades 10 and up

[Sunlight and Shadow](#) by Cameron Dokey Mina, a child of the dark, marries a prince and before they can be happy they must endure deadly trials. (YA DOK)

[Belle: A Retelling of "Beauty and the Beast"](#) by Cameron Dokey Belle, who lacks her sisters' beauty, spends her time alone with her wood carving, until she must carve the fabled Heartwood Tree to save her father from the Beast. (YA DOK)

[The Storyteller's Daughter: A Retelling of "The Arabian Nights"](#) by Cameron Dokey When Shahrazad becomes enslaved, she must remain cool and calm to come up with a clever plan that will make the coldhearted king see her in a different light in order to change her future. (YA DOK)

[Beauty Sleep: A Retelling of "Sleeping Beauty"](#) by Cameron Dokey Sixteen year old Aurore, whose original curse has been transmuted to a one hundred year sleep starting on her seventeenth birthday, encounters Oswald, whom she had replaced as the king's heir, and the questing knight Ironheart. (YA DOK)

[Before Midnight: A Retelling of "Cinderella"](#) by Cameron Dokey Cendrillon and her adopted brother, Raoul, left to be raised by servants, grow up in a quiet household until the day an elegant woman and her two daughters arrive announcing that she has married Cendrillon's father and will be taking over the household. (YA DOK)

[Golden: A Retelling of "Rapunzel"](#) by Cameron Dokey Born bald and raised by an adoptive mother, Rapunzel is finally told the truth about Rue, another daughter trapped in a tower due to a witch's curse, and so she heads off to help the imprisoned girl but becomes jealous of Rue's beautiful hair. (YA DOK)

[Midnight Pearls: A Retelling of "The Little Mermaid" by Debbie Vigie](#) A woven tapestry of magic, adventure, and romance tells the tale of a stunning mermaid, a horrible curse, and the power of love in the Kingdom of Aster, a place where legends are born. (YA VIG)

[Scarlet Moon](#) by Debbie Vigie Fearful of William, a young noble with ancient wolf blood running through his veins, Ruth decides to keep her distance, but a trip to her grandmother's house brings the two of them together once again. (YA VIG)

[Beastly](#) by Alex Flinn A modern retelling of "Beauty and the Beast" from the point of view of the Beast, a vain Manhattan private school student who is turned into a monster and must find true love before he can return to his human form. (YA FLI)

Teacher Resources

All Ages

[Jack and the Beanstalk Crossword](#)

[Dot to Dot Fairy Coloring Page](#)

[Draw and Write a Fairy Tale](#)

[Poetic Prompts with Fairy Tale Themes](#)

[Story Planner, Plan Your Own Fairy Tale](#)

[Story Starters](#)

[Fairy Tale Word Search](#)

K-5 Activities

[Fairy Tale Biography](#) Write a brief biography on your favorite fairy tale character.

[Work Unscramble](#) Unscramble words used in Yeh-Shen a Chinese Cinderella story.

[Reading Comprehension with Jack and the Beanstalk](#) Read the story and answer the following questions.

[Story Sequencing](#)

[Once Upon A Time Rethought: Writing Fractured Fairy Tales](#) What makes a fairy tale a fairy tale? Students work together to craft a list of common fairy tale elements; then, they explore and analyze a variety of tales, recording their information using a story map.

6-12 Activities

[Archaeology and Storytelling](#) Understand how individual families and whole cultures learn about their pasts by collecting and analyzing stories and artifacts.

[Fairy Tale Autobiographies](#) Students work together in small groups to read, discuss, and analyze fairy tales. After compiling a list of common elements, students collaborate on their own original

fairy tales—each student decides what kind of experience to write about, composes and revises a fairy tale, and finally presents their story to the rest of the class. The lesson follows a process method that includes peer review and encourages using picture books as models.

[Enchanting Readers with Revisionist Fairy Tales](#) These sessions lead students through an exploration of age appropriate texts of various formats that are in their own ways revisionist fairy tales. Ever a popular choice among students and teachers alike, the fairy tale/fantasy genre offers vast potential for high engaged interaction and both critical and creative discussions and activities.

[Explore Point of View in Fairy Tales](#) Have you ever thought about how the wolf might tell the story of Little Red Riding Hood? Or what the giant in Jack and the Beanstalk might have to say about having his goose stolen? A new viewpoint can make even the most well-known story fun to read. In this activity, children explore favorite stories told in new ways. They then use an online tool to create their own unexpected version of a fairy tale.

[Fairy Tales Around the World](#) Because of the worldwide ubiquity of fairy tales, their imagery and tropes have had a vast impact on many different forms of literature. The elements and echoes of fairy tales are alive in plays, movies, and books for all ages. Students should read and learn to understand fairy tales so that they can better comprehend the structures of literature as well as for the sake of the wonder, pleasure, and human understanding these stories can provide in their own right.

[Exploring Satire with Shrek](#) Because students are typically familiar with the characteristics of fairy tales, the movie Shrek, which satirizes fairy tale traditions, serves as an introduction to the satirical techniques of exaggeration, incongruity, reversal, and parody. Students brainstorm fairy tale characteristics, identify the satirical techniques used to present them in the movie, then create their own satirical versions of fairy tales.

Websites

Databases

A database is a collection of related electronic records in a standardized format, searchable in a variety of ways, such as title, author, subject, and keyword. Common examples of databases are the library catalog and citation indexes. The library subscribes to a variety of websites and also provides access to a state run database known as Inspire. Through each database you can access journal and magazine articles from a variety of sources.

[Inspire](#)

[Student Research Center](#)

Websites

When searching for information on the Internet, you need to find out where the information is coming from. Anyone can create a website so make sure that the information is referenced or is provided by an educated source. An educated source can be from a university/school, a teacher or

usually a site that ends in .edu or .org. Some .com sites have good information just make sure that the person that created the website is qualified. If you are not sure, look for their contact information at the bottom of the website.

Sur La Lune Fairy Tales (<http://www.surlalunefairytales.com>) 47 annotated fairy tales, 1600 international tales, 1500 illustrations, introduction to fairy tale studies, preschool storytime ideas, and more.

Hans Christian Anderson (<http://hca.gilead.org.il/>) The complete stories in translation with links to many other Anderson sites.

Brothers Grimm: Fairy Tales, History, Facts, and More

(<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/grimm/>) The Grimm's Brothers true fairy tales. Stories, timelines, maps, resources, and biographical information.

Grimm's Fairy Tales (<http://www.grimmfairytales.com/en/main>) Biographical information, stories, and interactive games.

Folklore and Mythology Electronic Texts (<http://www.pitt.edu/~dash/folktxts.html>) Excellent resource for multiple version of well-known and popular tales.

The Robin Hood Project (<http://www.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/rh/rhhome.htm>) The Robin Hood Project is an academic endeavor, designed to make available in electronic format a collection texts, images, bibliographies, and basic information about the Robin Hood stories and other outlaw tales. Additionally, the Robin Hood Project offers exclusive critical articles examining individual characters within the vast corpus of the Robin Hood legends.

King Arthur (<http://www.britannia.com/history/h12.html>) A comprehensive information resource on King Arthur.

Grimm Brothers (<http://www.pitt.edu/~dash/grimm.html>) Excellent resource for information and links on the Brothers Grimm.

Aesop's Fables (<http://www.umass.edu/aesop/>) Features short tales in text and animated version that were written or recorded by the ancient Greek citizen, Aesop.