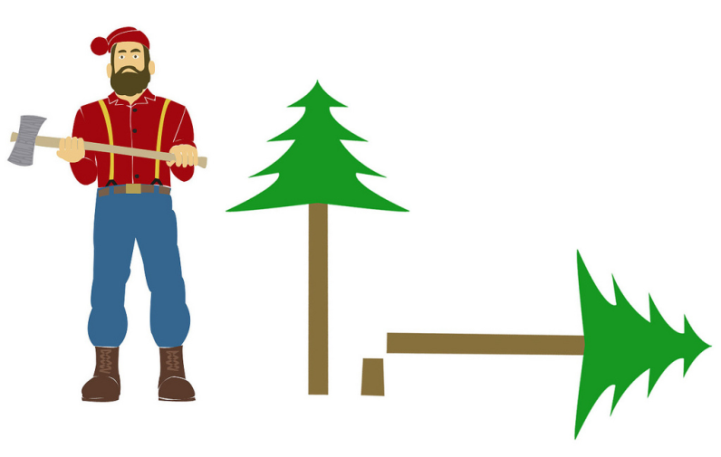
**Paul Bunyan - Childhood A00166**

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This material was adapted by Peter Schmitt from a variety of different versions of Paul Bunyan folktales.

Audio is read by Michael Wright and Bruce Stout.

**Paul Bunyan - Childhood**

Paul Bunyan is the fictional subject of some American folk \_\_\_stories\_. He was a **giant** \_\_\_who\_ worked as a lumberjack. A **lumberjack** is a person who cuts down trees to be made into **lumber**. Lumber is the word for the wood used to \_\_make\_\_ houses, furniture, etc. In the past, lumberjacks \_\_\_cut trees with **axes**, but now lumberjacks \_\_\_use **chainsaws**.

The legends of Paul Bunyan begin with \_\_\_stories\_\_ of his childhood.

**Paul Bunyan’s Childhood**

Paul Bunyan was from the \_\_state\_\_ of Maine in the United States. When he was born he was so \_\_big\_\_ that it took five **storks** to carry him. He grew quickly. After just a week, he had to \_\_wear\_\_ his father’s clothes. Instead of a **baby carriage**, he was taken for rides in a huge **wagon** pulled by **oxen**. He became \_\_so\_\_ big, that he could not fit in his **cradle**. So his parents \_\_put\_\_ him on a big **raft** in the ocean. \_\_When\_\_ Paul turned over in his sleep it caused huge **waves** in the ocean. The waves \_\_were\_\_ so big that they sunk ships that were nearby.

On Paul Bunyan’s \_\_\_first\_\_ birthday, his father gave him a pet blue ox named “Babe.” As a child Paul \_\_\_played\_\_ with an ax and a **saw** instead of toys like the other children. He would eat 40 bowls of oatmeal and still be \_\_\_hungry\_\_.

Paul Bunyan became bigger and bigger. When he was a young \_\_\_boy\_ he was already so big that his \_\_\_shirts\_ had to use **wagon wheels** as **buttons**.

**Tall Tales**

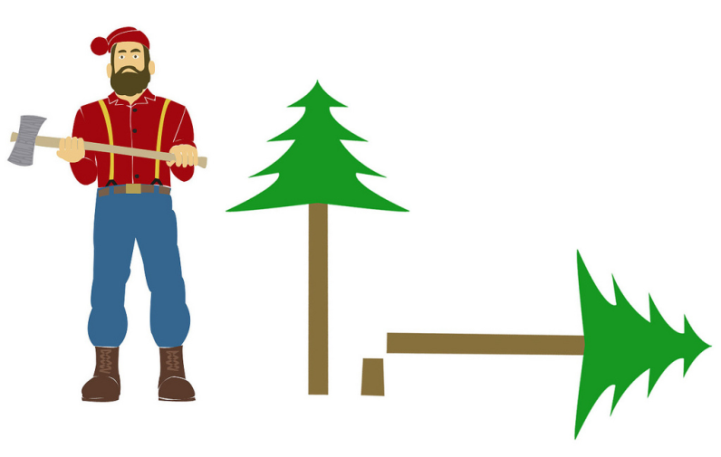
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We call this \_\_\_type\_\_ of story a “Tall **Tale**.” This means that the story is so **exaggerated** that it cannot be \_\_\_true\_\_\_, and everybody knows it cannot be true.

**Vocabulary**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Giant | Lumberjack | Lumber |
| Ax (or Axe)  Plural: Axes | C:\Users\Peter\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\EH7GBHHR\MC900215545[1].wmfChainsaw | C:\Users\Peter\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\851R9RQO\MC900238120[1].wmf  Stork |
| C:\Users\Peter\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\SP0I2FR2\MC900358719[1].wmf  Baby carriage | Wagon | Ox (Plural: Oxen) |
| Cradle | Raft | Waves |
| A Saw (noun) | Wagon Wheel | Button Plural: Buttons |
| Tale (Story) | To Exaggerate | To Sink  (past: Sunk) |

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**Tall Tales**

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