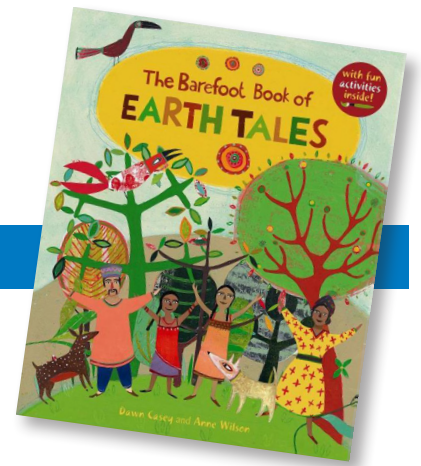


The Barefoot Book of Earth Tales



A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Nature, World Cultures, Folk Tales

Book Brief: This book shares seven folk tales about Mother Nature from seven different cultures around the world.

Author: Dawn Casey

Illustrator:

Anne Wilson

Content

Connections: Social Studies, Science, Geography, Art

TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the book based on the title and the cover illustration. What's an Earth tale? What do students notice about the people on the cover?

The Pictures: Explain that each story comes from a different part of the world. Let students see the pictures on the introductory pages for each place (e.g., Bali). What can students tell about each location based on the pictures?

Prior Knowledge: Tell students that a folk tale is a story that's been told by a group of people for a long time. It's usually a true story that's been *exaggerated*, or a made up story that teaches a lesson or explains how something in nature happened. Do the children know any folk tales? Look up the location of each tale on a map before you read.

Vocabulary: Will vary from story to story.

Purpose for Reading: This book works best if you read one or two tales at a time. Before reading, ask students to think about what the tale explains or what lesson the tale teaches.

WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

For each tale, ask:

- ◆ Where is this story set?
- ◆ Do you think it's based on a true story? Explain.

- ◆ Are the main characters real people, or are they *personified* animals or parts of nature?



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: "Did this story explain something in nature or teach a lesson? What did it explain, or what lesson did it teach?"

Extending Our Thinking: After you've read several Earth tales, ask what each one has in common. Why do so many folk tales or myths deal with the natural world and our relationship with it? Why is nature so important to every culture? Ask students to think about why we use stories to teach lessons. Why don't we just tell people how to behave?

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.



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