

# The Barefoot Book of Earth Tales

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

**Themes:** Nature, World Cultures, Folk Tales

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

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### TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** Explain 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? Read one story at a time; find each story's setting on a map.

### RELATED ACTIVITIES

#### FAMILY FOLK TALES (AGES 6-12)

Materials: paper, pencils or pens, crayons or markers

Have each child think of a true family story, or a true story that happened to them, and exaggerate it to be like a folk tale. Kids should write and illustrate their family folk tales. Bind the stories together into a book or display them on a bulletin board.

#### SHAPE SHIFTING (AGES 5-12)

Materials: paper, magazines, scissors, glue, crayons or markers

If you could be any shape you wanted, what would you look like? Would you have wings like a bird? A tail like a monkey? Cat ears?

Draw a picture of yourself.

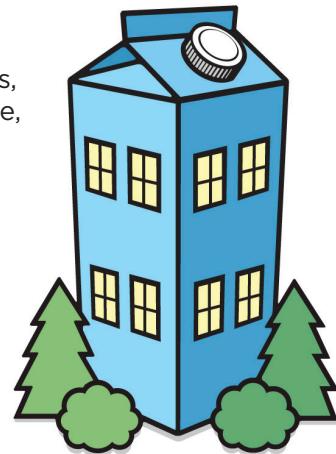
From a magazine, cut out different animal *traits* or parts you'd like to have. Glue them to your picture to make your perfect shape!



#### LITTLE HOUSE FOR A FAIRY (AGES 5-12)

Materials: old boxes/cartons, scrap materials, glue or tape, markers

Build a fairy house! Use empty boxes and other materials you find around the center to make a home for a fairy family. Be sure to decorate your house. You can even make tiny furniture to go inside!



#### TECHNOLOGY LINKS

Explore more folk tales from around the world at [www.worldoftales.com/folktales.html](http://www.worldoftales.com/folktales.html).

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

#### OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

*Don't Wake the Beastie!* (2011)

*Fox Fables* (2005)

*The Great Race* (2008)