

Paul Bunyan

Review Key Words⁶

- character** A character is a person or animal in a story.
- loggers** Loggers are people whose job is to cut down trees.
- tall tales** Tall tales are made-up stories that are told as if they are true. In tall tales, things are bigger, better, or worse than they are in real life.
- imaginary** Imaginary means made up or not real.



Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

5 In the early 1900s, North
 10 American **loggers** worked long days.
 17 At night, they sat around fires telling
 24 **tall tales**. Many tales were about an
 28 **imaginary** logger named Paul
 33 Bunyan. This **character** was bigger
 38 and stronger than anyone could
 40 **actually** be.

46 Paul was the largest baby ever
 54 born. By two weeks old, he had to
 60 wear his father's clothes. For fun,
 67 Paul **wrestled** bears. He used a pine
 74 tree to brush his beard. He **picked**
 his teeth with logs.

78 Paul was the world's best logger.
 84 He could cut down an **acre** of forest
 92 with one swing of his **ax**.

98 One day, Paul found an **ox** in the
 106 snow. The ox was so cold, he had
 114 turned blue. Paul saved him. He
 120 named the ox Babe. Babe grew so
 127 big that his footprints became lakes.

133 Loggers liked tall tales about Paul
 139 and Babe. In these stories, Paul
 145 showed **qualities** the loggers **prized**.
 150 He was strong and worked hard.
 156 People still tell stories about Paul
 162 Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox.

| | day 1 | day 2 | day 3 | day 4 |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| words read | | | | |
| - errors | | | | |
| = total words read correctly | | | | |
| adult initials | | | | |

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Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Paul Bunyan was the largest baby ever born.
 - b. Paul Bunyan saved a blue ox and named him Babe.
 - c. There are many tall tales about Paul Bunyan.
2. Where did Paul Bunyan find an ox?
 - a. in the snow
 - b. in the forest
 - c. in a lake
3. What does the word **prized** mean in this story?
 - a. gave someone an award for trying hard
 - b. won something for being the best
 - c. thought something was important
4. How do you know Paul was imaginary?
 - a. people still tell stories about him
 - b. he was bigger than anyone could really be
 - c. he was the world's best logger
5. In what ways did Paul Bunyan show that he was strong?

Parent Tips

The goal of this assignment is to improve reading comprehension through fluent reading. So, even though the students are only expected to read 50-100 words per minute, we have to give them enough information to think about. There's very little skill required to understand a 50 word story! As the year progresses, you'll notice the stories getting longer and more complex. This is to match your child's growth as a reader.