



FOLKLORE LESSON

Folklore is the study of the oral tradition of a culture. It is usually associated with the jokes, stories, and beliefs of the people who are part of that culture. Although it sometimes has mythic elements, unlike mythology folklore doesn't usually involve gods or religion.

EXERCISE: Folklore of Your Family and Neighborhood

Think of a weird story that your family or friends or neighbors tell.

Is there a haunted house in your neighborhood?

Has anyone in your family ever seen a ghost or a weird light, or heard a strange sound?

What about the boogeyman?

How about something else that was just strange?

Do you know any urban legends?

Is there something you heard at camp or at a sleepover?

When you think of something, write it down as closely as you can remember it. What you've written down is just the kind of story that folklorists collect.

