

Title: Folktales

Focus: (Character Traits) Any of the Attributes

Background: To provide a meaningful context and a common language for exploring the ten character attributes identified by the Lambton Kent District School Board, East Lambton uses multicultural folktales shared through the age old practice of storytelling.

Typically, folktales present:

- A problem that needs solving
- Characters that are easy to relate to emotionally
- An array of possible solutions that arouse curiosity and a sense of justice
- A common experience which bridges cultural differences and build appreciation and tolerance.

Resources: Once Upon a Time Storytelling to teach Character (available in all LKDSB schools)

Schools to Contact: [East Lambton Elementary School](#)

Outline: During a six week period, the staff and students focus on one or two related character attributes. Teachers introduce these attributes within their classrooms by sharing a selected folktale. Storytelling and other dramatic methods are often used to heighten student's engagement.

Members of the student character education team play an active role in carrying the folktale message throughout the East Lambton community. Team members take on the roles of roving reporters, searching for clues related to the stories being shared and emphasising their school connections. Their reports are regularly featured during the morning announcements. The team also makes classroom visits to engage students in a variety of creative activities that help them to make personal connections to the message of the folktale. Team members further demonstrate positive leadership by planning and presenting a culminating celebration assembly at the end of each folktale focus. Many of the schools character education initiatives are reported to the community by team members who write a monthly article for the local newspaper.

Impact:

Student Achievement: Supports development of whole student, (cognitive, effective, and behavioural domains)

School Culture: Promotes a positive school culture , creates meaningful opportunities for student lead activities, and encourages students to assume leadership roles.

Student, Staff and Parent Engagement: The entire school participate in character Ed. Activities. Parents are invited to assemblies; there is a Character Education link on the school website.

Possible Extension Activities /Reflections: