

Learning about Paul Bunyan

Comprehension

Select the word or words in the following list that describe Paul Bunyan, and find examples in the story to defend your choices:

selfish
crazy
lazy
careless
energetic
polite
generous
proud
kind

After Paul saves Babe from freezing, how does the Blue Ox feel about him? How do you know this?

Why do you think Paul Bunyan is still popular with readers today?

Setting

What different places does the writer describe in this tall tale? Write a sentence or two that describes each setting in your own words.

Hyperbole

Find at least three examples of hyperbole in this tale.

Personification

In the following description, what human qualities do the trees show?

The trees marched up mountains and down again. They followed rivers and creeks. They massed up together in purple canyons and shoved each other out of the way on the shores of lakes.

Interpreting Character

Characters in a story must be enough like real people for the reader to believe in them. In what ways is Paul Bunyan like a real person?