

## Leapfrog Program

### Course Title

Monsters & Mermaids

### Course Description

Students expand their reading, researching, and listening skills through the exploration of fantastic tales about mysterious creatures, such as the Loch Ness monster and singing mermaids. Writing skills are advanced as students craft their own accounts of monster sightings in formats such as illustrated newspaper accounts, live reports, and short stories. Vocabulary enrichment and art activities and will serve as enhancements to the writing process.

### Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify various cryptozoological creatures that "exist" in the world
- Associate the culture and or country that the cryptid is a part of
- Understand the elements of newspapers and live reporting
- Write in various genres, such as poetry, short story and reporting
- Incorporate peer feedback into their writing and give constructive feedback of their own to peers

### Resources and Materials

- Andersen, Hans Christian (2004). The Little Mermaid. Lisbeth Zwerger. ISBN: 0-698-40001-1
- Coleman, Loren (1999). Cryptozoology A To Z: The Encyclopedia of Loch Monsters, Sasquatch, Chupacabras, and Other Authentic Mysteries of Nature. Simon & Schuster. ISBN: 978-0-684-85602-5
- Cropper, Paul and Healy, Tom (2006). The Yowie: In Search of Australia's Bigfoot. Anomalist Books ISBN: 978-0-933607-160
- Climo, Shirley (1997). A Treasury of Mermaids. Harper Collins Publishing. ISBN: 0-06-023876-3
- Gibbons, Gary (2001). Behold...the Unicorns. HarperCollins. ISBN: 068817955X
- Faherty, A.W. (2007). The Luck of the Loch Ness Monster. A Tale of Picky Eating. Houghton Mifflin Company. ISBN: 978-0-618-55644-1
- Leahy, Kelly Milner (2006). Tales of the Cryptids: Mysterious Creatures That May or May Not Exist. Darby Creek Publishing. ISBN: 978-1581960495
- Ho, Oliver (2008). Mutants & Monsters. Sterling Publishing. ISBN: 978-1-4027-642-1
- Isadora, Rachel (1998). The Little Mermaid. G.P. Putnam's Sons. ISBN: 0-399-22813-6
- Mayer, Marianna (1998). Pegasus. Morrow Junior Books. ISBN: 0-668-13382-7
- McCaughrean, Geraldine (1997). Unicorns! Unicorns! Holiday House. ISBN: 0-8234-1319-5
- Miller, Karen (2007). Monsters and Water Beasts. Henry Holt and Company. ISBN: 0-8050-7902-5
- Oliver, Narelle (2001). Mermaids Most Amazing. G.P. Putnam's Sons. ISBN: 0-399-24288-0
- Osborne, Mary Pope (1993). Mermaid Tales from Around the World. Scholastic, Inc. ISBN: 0-439-04781-1

- o. Pitcher, Caroline and Jackie Morris (2000). Mariana and the Merchild: A Folktale from Chile. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company. ISBN: 0802852041
- p. San Souci, Robert (1992). Sukey and the Mermaid. Four Winds Press. ISBN: 0-02-778141-0
- q. San Souci, Robert (1989). The Loch Ness Monster : Opposing Viewpoints. Greenhaven Press. ISBN: 0899080723
- r. San Souci, Robert (2000). Nicholas Pipe. Puffin. ISBN: 0803717644
- s. Walker, Paul Robert (1992). Bigfoot and Other Legendary Creatures. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich Publishers. ISBN: 0-15-207147-4
- t. Yolen, Jane (2003). Where Have the Unicorns Gone? Aladdin. ISBN: 0689824653
- u. Yorke, Malcolm (1999). Beastly Tales: Yeti, Bigfoot, and the Loch Ness Monster. Tander Library. ISBN: 0-61307-318-5
- v. The Cryptozoological Society of London. A Natural History of the Unnatural World
- w. ISBN: 0312207034
- x. <http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/series/is-it-real/all/Overview>
- y. [www.cryptomundo.com/cryptozoo-news/kids-cz-bks/](http://www.cryptomundo.com/cryptozoo-news/kids-cz-bks/)
- z. [www.cryptozoology.com](http://www.cryptozoology.com)
- aa. <http://www.kinderart.com/drawing/name.shtml>
- bb. <http://mermaidmary.com/teachers.html>
- cc. <http://www.nessie.co.uk/>
- dd. <http://www.strangescience.net/stmons.htm>
- ee. <http://www.talesofthecryptids.com/>

### Student Evaluation

Students will receive a written evaluation at the end of the session based on general class performance, discussion participation (whole group and small group), small group contributions, and written work.

### Schedule

Date(s)	Topic(s)	In-class Activities	Instructional Strategies and Assessment
7/13 AM	What is cryptozoology? Mermaids and Mermen Descriptive Words Poetry: Haiku, Cinquain Couplets	Students will develop a list of descriptive “juicy” words for creatures.  Students will write different forms of poetry on Mermaids.  Art Project: Life-sized Mermaids or Mermen	Flexible grouping  Curriculum compacting when appropriate
7/14 AM	More Mermaids... how cultures represent them differently.  Fact vs. Fiction  Elements of story writing	Students will write a report using facts.  Students will write a short story using fiction.  Art Project: Mermaid Map	Flexible grouping  Curriculum compacting when appropriate  1 on 1 conferences in writing workshop format

7/15 AM	<p>The Loch Ness Monster</p> <p>Elements of Newspaper Writing, using the 5Ws and an H.</p>	<p>Web Quest: Nessie</p> <p>Students will answer the 5 Ws and an H for Newspaper Article and develop a Headline.</p> <p>Students will publish newspaper article on Monster sighting and incorporate "Mystery Photo".</p> <p>Art Project: Name Monster</p>	<p>Flexible grouping</p> <p>Curriculum compacting when appropriate</p> <p>1 on 1 conferences in writing workshop format</p>
7/16 AM	<p>The Sasquatch (Big Foot)</p> <p>Unicorns and Pegasus</p> <p>Elements of Interviewing and Live Reporting</p>	<p>Web Quest: Bigfoot</p> <p>Students will write and perform live report for "sighting".</p> <p>Art Project: Unicorn Horn</p>	<p>Flexible grouping</p> <p>Curriculum compacting when appropriate</p> <p>1 on 1 conferences in writing workshop format</p>
7/17 AM	<p>Creative Creatures</p>	<p>Students will review monsters and creatures studied during week.</p> <p>Students will design own creature including its physical characteristics and personality.</p> <p>Students will use genre comfortable with to write about created monster: newspaper story, reporting, short story or poetry.</p> <p>Participate in Expo!</p>	<p>Flexible grouping</p> <p>1 on 1 conferences in writing workshop format</p>

Summer Sample