AMERICAN LEGENDS AND MYTHS  
Workshop Vocabulary

**Task 1: INTRODUCTION**

Talk to your partner and discuss what you know about the United States. You may want to consider:

* Books and movies
* Geography
* Politics
* Culture
* History
* Cuisine

**Task 2: SPEAKING AND VOCABULARY**

Talk to your partner and answer the questions below:

1. Do you know these words? What’s the equivalent in Polish?
2. How could these words be relevant to the topic of the workshop?
3. **To exaggerate (verb):** to represent something as bigger, better, or worse than it really is
4. **To stretch the truth:** to exaggerate
5. **Folk hero (noun):** someone who people admire even though the person is not real
6. **Yarn (noun):** a story which is impossible to believe
7. **Anecdote (noun):** story
8. **Lumberjack (noun):** a person who chops down trees
9. **Logger (noun):** another word for a lumberjack
10. **Toddler (noun):** a child aged between 12-36 months
11. **Axe (noun):** a sharp tool used for cutting wood
12. **Fishing pole (noun):** a piece of equipment used for catching fish
13. **Ox (noun):** a male cow used on farms
14. **Inseparable (adjective):** unable to be apart
15. **Pioneers (noun):** people who moved west to settle land
16. **Timber!!!! (noun):** what you shout as a chopped tree is falling down
17. **Sawmill (noun):** where logs (chopped wood) are turned into lumber
18. **Blizzard (noun):** a huge snowstorm
19. **Feller (noun):** guy, man
20. **Flapjack (noun):** pancake
21. **Griddle (noun):** a frying pan
22. **Chow (noun):** food
23. **The Rockies (noun):** short for the Rocky Mountains
24. **Saga (noun):** a story of heroic actions
25. **Boastful (adjective):** someone who talks about how great they are
26. **Coyote (noun):** a fox-like animal native to North America
27. **To wallop (verb):** to hit
28. **Kerplop (interjection):** the sound of something falling
29. **Pack (noun):** a group of animals (wolves, coyotes)
30. **Cowpoke (noun):** another word for cowboy
31. **Varmint (noun):** a troublesome wild animal
32. **Ranch (noun):** land and various buildings used for raising animals like cattle or sheep
33. **Corral (noun):** a place to keep cattle
34. **Cyclone (noun):**  like a tornado
35. **Stampede (noun):** a sudden rush of people or animals
36. **Broncho (noun):** a wild horse
37. **Lariat (noun):** a rope used as a lasso
38. **To lasso (verb + noun):** throwing a rope to tie up an animal
39. **Orchard (noun):** an area of land used for growing fruit
40. **Frontier (noun):** the extreme limit of settled land
41. **To settle (verb):** make a permanent home
42. **To harvest (verb):** to gather crops
43. **Tepees (noun):** homes used by some Native Americans
44. **Alleghenies (noun):** a mountain range through West Virginia and Pennsylvania, part of the larger Appalachian Mountain range
45. **Coal (noun):** a black substance dug from the ground and used for heating
46. **Steel (noun):** a metal material used in buildings
47. **Spike (noun):** a thin, pointed piece of metal
48. **Ballad (noun):** a song or poem
49. **Track (noun):** the thing a train moves on
50. **Drill (noun):** a tool used for making holes

**Task 3: VOCABULARY TEST**

Now that you have studied the vocabulary, do you remember what the words mean?

1. **To exaggerate (verb)**
2. **To stretch the truth**
3. **Folk hero (noun)**
4. **Yarn (noun)**
5. **Anecdote (noun)**
6. **Lumberjack (noun)**
7. **Logger (noun)**
8. **Toddler (noun)**
9. **Axe (noun)**
10. **Fishing pole (noun)**
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32. **Cyclone (noun)**
33. **Stampede (noun)**
34. **Broncho (noun)**
35. **Lariat (noun)**
36. **To lasso (verb + noun)**
37. **Orchard (noun)**
38. **Frontier (noun)**
39. **To settle (verb)**
40. **To harvest (verb)**
41. **Tepees (noun)**
42. **Alleghenies (noun)**
43. **Coal (noun)**
44. **Steel (noun)**
45. **Spike (noun)**
46. **Ballad (noun)**
47. **Track (noun)**
48. **Drill (noun)**

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Teachers’ Notes

These activities have been designed to be used before the workshops as introduction and a way of getting students interested, and to pre-teach the key vocabulary.

You may also use the material as a follow up activity after the students have attended the event and see how much they remember!

If no time to cover the vocabulary in class, email the worksheet to the students before the workshop, and ask them to study the words for homework before the event.