**Paul Bunyan**

Paul Bunyan was born big. Some people say he was the biggest baby ever born in the state of Maine. He caused lots of problems! Sometimes, when he sneezed, he blew people clear out of the state!

In those days, the forests were thick with trees. Paul decided that he was going to be a lumberjack when he grew up. And, sure enough, that’s what he did. By this time, he was awfully big. So big, in fact, that the bunkhouse in Paul’s camp was so large that the other men needed maps to find their beds at night.

And talk about a big eater! Every morning the cook had to make enough pancakes for all the men. He cooked thousands and thousands of pancakes, with five stacks of hotcakes reaching from floor to ceiling, just for Paul. The table at camp was about ten miles long. Some of the younger lumberjacks had to ride bicycles down the center of the table, delivering pancakes and syrup, and whatever else they were called for.

Paul Bunyan had a special friend: his blue ox, Babe. Babe was just about as big as Paul. Babe caused lots of problems! One day, Babe knocked over a tank of water. The entire camp might have drowned, but Paul acted quickly. As fast as he could, he dug a ditch to let the water drain away. Today, that “ditch” is called the Mississippi River.

1. What was one of the problems caused by Paul Bunyan’s size? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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2. Using context clues, explain what a bunkhouse is. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. Why did some lumberjacks ride bicycles on the table? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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4. Is this story fiction or non-fiction? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ How do you know?

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