МБОУ СОШ № 4

**Old fairy tales**

**of the new world.**

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Table of contents:

# Introduction

# The signification of the word

# Distinctive features of fairy tales

# History

# Different types of fairy tales

## The folk tale

## The novelistic tale

## The anecdotal tale

## The tall story

## Animal Tales

## Tales of magic

## Monsters stories

## Princess stories

# Why do we need fairy tales?

# Modern Fairy Tales

# The Research

# Conclusion

# Appendix

***Introduction***

The 21 century this is a world of new opportunities, new technologies, a world where children grow up so fast and many of them stop believe in miracle, a world where people are preoccupied with their own problems and sometimes do not notice what is happening around - this is a reality of our days. Sometimes I think that we do not have enough faith in a miracle, magic, belief in happy ending. Maybe we do not have enough faith in fairy tales?

People relate differently to fairy tales. Some of them like it but other think that we do not need a fairy tales. For example Maria Semenova said: ‘What is good in fairy tales, in ordinary living life is no good ’, but at the same time S. Korolev claimed: ‘A person who believes in the fairy tale, one misses it because he has a heart ...’. So, do we none the less need a fairy tale and which ones actually read today?

Therefore, the objective of the project is to learn whether we need fairy tales in the modern world and find out how popular fairy tales in modern times.

For answering this question, I should:

* Learn the meaning of the word “fairy tale”
* Find out distinctive features of tales
* Study the history
* Look into the matter different types of fairy tales
* Address the issue of the need for tales
* Learn the notion of the modern fairy tales
* Conduct my own research

***The signification of the word***

To understand what the fairy is tale I have studied some meanings of this word in different dictionaries. So, here I present some of them:

* Something resembling a fairy story in being magical, idealized, or extremely happy. (Oxford dictionary)
* A fabricated story, especially one intended to deceive. (Oxford dictionary)
* A traditional story written for children that usually involves imaginary creatures and magic (Cambridge Dictionary)

***Distinctive features of fairy tales***

Ok, now we understand what the tale is, but how can you determine that a story is a fairy tale? Well, in the story there are things called elements that will help you decide. Let's take a look at some of the elements of fairy tales. Not every fairy tale has all of these elements, but a story must have at least a few of them to be called a fairy tale.

One of the elements of fairy tales is that they often start and end with special words like "once upon a time," "a long, long time ago," and "they lived happily ever after." When you read those words, you know that the story could be a fairy tale.

Another element of a fairy tale is that the story often takes place in a castle, a forest, or a town. This is called the setting. The setting is where the story takes place. Little Red Riding Hood is set in the forest, and part of Cinderella is set in the castle of the prince.

Fairy tales always have at least one good character, or person, in the story. An example of a good character is Cinderella. Fairy tales often have bad characters, too, like Cinderella's mean stepsisters. Another example of a bad character is the evil witch in Hansel and Gretel

Very often, one of the characters is royalty, which means that the person is a king, a queen, a prince, or princess. A good example of this is The Princess and the Pea. Characters may also be animals, like the wolf in Little Red Riding Hood, or the bears in Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

Magic is often an element of fairy tales. In Cinderella, there is a fairy godmother who helps Cinderella go to the ball in a fancy dress and carriage. In Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack buys magic seeds that grow into a beanstalk.

***History***

Origin of fairy tales dates back thousands of years. The history of fairy tales or fairy stories have fantasy creatures such as faeries, fey, goblins, elves, trolls, witches, giants, and or talking animals. Enchantments and far - fetched events are also usually part of the plot. Unlike legends and folklore tales, they seldom contain any references to religion, actual places, persons or events.

Both long and short Fairy tales, folklore, legends and myths have been passed from generation to generation since before recorded history. The origin of these types of oral stories is impossible to determine. All ancient cultures from all over the globe have fairy tales.

Originally tales were intended for adults and only in 19-20 centuries, they became popular among children. Today fairy tales popular among all ages.

Two theories on the origin of fairy tales have attempted to explain the common elements in the fairytales text found spread over many continents. One theory is that a tale comes from a single source and spreads from culture to culture over time. The other theory is that these tales reference common human experience. The first written fairy tales are from ancient Egypt and occurred around 1300 BC.

***Different types of fairy tales***

Nowadays there are so many different classifications of tales on the types and genres. So, here presents some of them.

**The folk tale**

The Tale, which is based on a traditional plot relates to the prosaic folklore (fairy prose). The plot of folk fairy tales, unlike literary fairy tale plot, exists in a variety of texts where allowed some degree of improvisation artist fabulous material.

**The novelistic tale**

The novelistic tale (or the social tale) has the same composition with a fairy tale, but it is qualitatively different from her. The tale of the genre firmly tied to reality, here there is only one, the terrestrial world, and realistic features of life are passed, and the main character - a trickster, an ordinary man from the people's environment, struggling for justice with the powers that be and doing his using ingenuity, agility and tricks .

**The anecdotal tale**

The anecdotal tale has been allocated by A. Afanasiev and differs from the anecdote that the tale is a detailed narrative of anecdote.

**The tall story**

Tall tales - a fairy tale, built on nonsense. They are small in size and often look metrical prose. Stories are a special genre of folklore, which occurs in all nations as an independent writing or as part of a fairy tale, skomoroshiny, bylichki, epics.

**Animal Tales**

A large number of fairy tales feature animals prominently. Many of these stories are quite old and might also be considered folk tales or fables. The animals in these stories can often talk and act like people. They are used to convey simple morals as the animals are symbolic of abstract ideas. Such stories as "Cat and Mouse in Partnership," "The Billy Goats Gruff" and any of Aesop's fables fall into this category.

**Tales of Magic**

One motif that figures prominently in a large number of fairy tales is magic. Most fairy tales present some magical or fantastic element, but these stories are ones where the narrative is centered around magical elements. Well-known stories, such as "Rumpelstiltskin" and "The Princess and the Frog," feature magic spells and supernatural elements. In some cases, characters are imprisoned by a magical force, while in others; magic seems to be a device to move the story forward.

**Monster Stories**

In monster stories, the protagonist encounters some sort of ghoul, ogre, witch or troll. These monsters are invariably the antagonist and present an obstacle that the hero must overcome. Stories like "Jack and the Beanstalk" and "Hansel and Gretel" fall into this category. Monsters may represent punishment for disobeying an authority figure or a general threat that children should be wary of.

**Princess Stories**

Princesses and other royals figure prominently in many fairy tales. These stories have been the subject of several film and television adaptations and have often been sanitized. The original version of "Cinderella," for example, involves the stepsisters cutting off their heels to fit into Cinderella's slipper. "The Princess and the Pea" and "Sleeping Beauty" fit into this category. These stories often play into children's fantasies about royalty and often feature commoners marrying royalty or discovering they are royalty themselves.

***Why do we need a fairy tale?***

No matter what language you speak, all of us can remember those words that begin fantastical adventures. Most of us, too, can remember the fuzzy feeling that settled over us like fairy dust by the time the story ended. Perhaps that is reason enough why fairy tales are important, because they make us happy.

Fairy tale characters still inspire us to root for them. Why? Because they’re human and because when we look at them, we see ourselves. When we see ourselves in these characters, we see mistakes that we’ve made and the risks that paid off, all without feeling like we’re being overly preached to.

Yes, sometimes fairy tales are the best way to stomach lessons.

Sometimes fairy tales give us good ways to see ourselves.

Perhaps fairy tales are hard to believe, not because of all the Pegasus flying about, but because it’s hard for people to suspend their disbelief long enough to feel that there are such things as happy endings. To many, each day is a constant reminder that good doesn’t always triumph over evil. That the poor-yet-honest don’t always become rich, and there certainly have been no pumpkins being turned into coaches (as far as I am aware).

Fairy tales give us these opportunities, which is why they’re important. Fairy tales remind us to dream.

Because everyone deserves their own happily ever after.

***Modern fairy tale***

Do you think this is unconvincing? What is it – modern fairy tale? If tale - so old, if modern, the detective. Or not? What is this phenomenon is - a modern fairy tale? Much has changed since ancient times. It is very useful to know about flint, lapty and rejuvenating apples. This is important because it is an integral part of national folklore. But do we need fairy tales which describe a situation in which we find ourselves every day, in modern life?

I consider that we need. Modern fairy tale - a fairy tale, which also explains the difference between good and evil, only on more modern, understandable language, and today we explained it should on the actual objects today, this is especially important for young readers.

Classical writings are playing in new ways in a modern retelling and same thing happens with fairy tales.

Sometimes teenagers do not like the old tales. But why?

Another language, other views, other energy.

Therefore, in my opinion we need a modern fairy tale, but should not forget about old fairy tales.

***The research***

For the research, I have made a questionnaire.

In this survey involved 100 people. There were 6 questions and the results are:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Do you like fairy tales? | | | |
|  | Pupil(school student) | Student | Adult |
| Yes | 37 | 23 | 25 |
| No | 11 | 3 | 1 |

According to, we can see that 85% of people like fairy tales, but 15% dislike.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| How often do you read fairy tales? | | | |
|  | Pupil(school student) | Student | Adult |
| Often | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| Sometimes | 35 | 20 | 24 |
| Never | 6 | 4 | 0 |
| Other | 3 | 0 | 2 |

6% of people often red fairy tales

79%- sometimes read fairy tales

10%- never read fairy tales

5%- gave a different answer

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Who need to read fairy tales? | | | |
|  | Pupil(school student) | Student | Adult |
| Children | 22 | 3 | 0 |
| Teenagers | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Adults | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Both adults and children and teenagers | 23 | 20 | 26 |

25% of people think that only children should read fairy tales

5%- Only teenagers should read fairy tales

1%- Only adults should read fairy tales

69%- Both and adults, and children, and teenagers should read fairy tales

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Why do people read fairy tales? | | | |
|  | Pupil(school student) | Student | Adult |
| Because they are bored | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| To return to childhood | 24 | 6 | 5 |
| To re-evaluate their actions | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| Because they want to feel like someone else | 13 | 13 | 18 |

6% of respondents think that people read fairy tales because they are bored

35%- people read fairy tales because they are want to return to childhood

15%- people read fairy tales to re-evaluate their actions

44%- people read fairy tales because their want to feel like someone else

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Have you ever heard something about modern fairy tales? | | | |
|  | Pupil(school student) | Student | Adult |
| Yes | 34 | 12 | 19 |
| No | 14 | 14 | 7 |

65% of people have ever heard about modern fairy tales

35% of people have not heard about modern fairy tales

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Do we need fairy tales in a modern world? | | | |
|  | Pupil(school student) | Student | Adult |
| Yes | 44 | 25 | 26 |
| No | 4 | 1 | 0 |

95% of people think that we need fairy tales in a modern world

Only 5% of respondents think that we do not need fairy tales in a modern world.

To conclude, I would like to show you the diagrams:

***Conclusion***

In conclusion, I would like to say that with the beginning of creation of the project the main objective for me was to get an answer to the question which I have asked at the beginning: Do we still need fairy tales in the modern world?

For me there is always only one answer: it is yes, but now according to the results of research have been conducted by me, it can say that most of people consider as well. It was very important for me to get such a result. And now I can safely say that no matter how varied our views, values, priority, regardless of our age tale will live in our hearts forever.

***Resources:***

1. *Propp V. History of magician fairy tales, L., 1986*
2. *Novikov N.V. Images of Slavic magician fairy tale, L., 1974*
3. *Oxford Dictionary, University Press, Oxford, 2013*