

# The Legends of Sleepy Hollow and Rip Van Winkle

Washington Irving

## A Before Reading

- 1 Look at the front cover of the book. Write as many words as you can describing what you can see. Write adjectives and nouns.
- 2 Read about the stories on the back cover of the book. Here are some chapter headings from the two stories. Which headings belong to which story?

The Ghost of the Soldier    The Spirits of the Catskills  
Ichabod and Katrina    Down from the Mountain

*The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*

*The Legend of Rip Van Winkle*

## B While Reading

### THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW

- 3 Read to the top of page 32. What do you think happened to Ichabod Crane?
- 4 Whenever people talked about Ichabod Crane, Brom Bones always laughed loudly. Why did Brom Bones laugh? Make a guess.

### THE LEGEND OF RIP VAN WINKLE

- 5 Look at these pictures.  
For each picture:  
(a) Who do you recognize?  
(b) Write a short dialogue between two of the people. (It doesn't have to be exactly the same as a dialogue in the story. But it must fit with the events of the story and the way that people behave.)






Picture One



Picture Two

- 6 This is a list of people who appear in this story. Who are they?
- |                      |                     |                        |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Rip Van Winkle   | (b) Nicholas Vedder | (c) Rip Van Winkle     |
| (d) Judith Gardenier | (e) Rip Van Winkle  | (f) Derrick Van Bummel |
| (g) Hendrick Hudson  |                     |                        |

### C After Reading

- 7 Choose (a) or (b).
- (a) You fall asleep for twenty years not far from your house. Write the story of what happens when you wake up and go back to your village, town or city.
- (b) You meet a stranger in your village, town or city who tells you that they have been asleep for twenty years. Write the story of your meeting with this stranger and the conversations you have with them.
- 8 Write a conversation between Katrina Van Tassel and her friends. The conversation happens during the party at her house. What do they say about Ichabod Crane and Brom Bones?
- 9 Complete this Wordsearch. There are twenty words to find, horizontally,  diagonally  and vertically .
- Make three lists.
- (a) Words in both stories.
- (b) Words in *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* only.
- (c) Words in *The Legend of Rip Van Winkle* only.

