

## Passage #2 Paul Bunyan

Paul Bunyan and his Blue Ox Babe Paul Bunyan was a giant and strong lumberjack. He had a huge blue ox named Babe. It was said that Bunyan was seven feet tall and able to do any lumber job in the country. He was able to cut the trees of whole forests with one sweep of his axe. Some lumberjacks told stories about how Bunyan logged all the timber from the large state of North Dakota.

Now a story would not be complete without Bunyan's ox. One might ask why Babe was blue. The story started one fine winter. The snow was blue for seven days. Babe rested in the blue snow and then his fur was blue instead of white. Babe was also very large and strong. Other lumberjacks were so amazed because Babe weighed ten thousand pounds and had the strength of nine horses.

It was no wonder that Bunyan and Babe were known to pull large houses up mountains and down to the valleys with only drops of sweat. Together they helped people haul logs or chopped trees to give a hand around the logging camps.

Both were happiest in the woods with plenty of trees. They tried to stay close to the river so they could cut the trees and drop them in the river. And, down the river the logs floated to the mill. And so, Paul Bunyan and Babe became larger than life American folk heroes of our country.