

## Bookfolio for **Mike Fink**

**Author:** [James Cloyd Bowman](#)

**Illustrator:** Steven Kellogg

**Publisher:**

**ISBN:** 0316104108

**Recommended for:** [Grades 4-6](#)

**Classification:** Fiction

**Genre:** [Legends and Folktales](#)

**Story Summary:** Young Mike had but one dream: to navigate a keelboat on the fickle Mississippi River. From the moment he signed on as a mate on Captain Billy's "Half Moon," Mike Fink proved his exceptional bravery, strength, and intelligence. He was so quiet in appearance and so explosive in action that the rivermen named him "the Snapping Turtle of the O-hi-o-o" and "the Snag of the Massassip." Mike's shooting abilities and hunting prowess also helped to spread his fame. Mike soon became Captain, a respected and fearless leader. When Captain Mike realized that civilization -- in the form of the newly-invented steamboat and other river craft that crowded the Mississippi -- was here to stay, he and his loyal crew headed west, to the wilderness, where they could exercise their talents and test their wills.

**Read-aloud Recommendation:** Chapter 3, pages 18-29

**The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:**

**R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing**

Mike Fink - Independent Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">Here's a Taller Tale</a> (Adding more exaggeration to a tall tale)	S , W
2. <a href="#">The Tallest Tale</a> (Writing a tall tale)	D , W
3. <a href="#">Oral Tradition</a> (Writing a report)	L , S
4. <a href="#">Keelboating</a> (Writing a poem)	D , R , W
5. <a href="#">The Steam Engine</a> (Writing a report)	R , S , W
6. <a href="#">The Mighty Mississippi</a> (Making a map)	D , R , W
Mike Fink - Group Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">Tall Tales</a> (Writing tall tales)	S , W
2. <a href="#">An American Songfest</a> (Giving a songfest)	S
3. <a href="#">Heroes of the Wilderness</a> (Writing a report)	R , W
4. <a href="#">Tell Mike about Civilization</a> (Writing a letter)	D , W
5. <a href="#">Folk Hero Circle</a> (Retelling a tall tale)	R , S
6. <a href="#">"Let's Talk About..."</a> (Discussing the story)	L , S

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