One kind of figurative language is called a **hyperbole**. It is an exaggeration that makes a story more colorful. Sometimes a hyperbole is used to be funny. “It gets so cold here that even the polar bears wear coats!” is a hyperbole.

**Directions:** Read the story below. Underline the hyperboles.

**Paul Bunyan**

Paul Bunyan was born in Bangor Maine. It took half a dozen storks to deliver the baby Paul to his parents. His crib was a wagon pulled by eight draft horses. His father drove the wagon up and down the coast of Maine every night to rock baby Paul to sleep.

Paul cried so loudly that birds fled the forest and squirrels wore earplugs. Groundhogs hid down deep in their burrows every morning so they couldn’t hear Paul screaming for his breakfast. His father had to milk a whole herd of cows every day just to keep Paul’s bottle full. It took a field’s worth of grain every morning to make Paul’s cereal. When Paul got hungry, his stomach rumbled so loudly that the earth quaked.

When he was a week old, Paul could wear his father’s clothes. When he was a month old Paul went outside to play and flattened an entire forest with his boots. His parents didn’t know what to do. Paul was too big for the house, too big for the farm, and too big for his lumber wagon cradle. So they built a gigantic raft and floated it off the coast. But Paul rolled off the raft in his sleep and caused a tidal wave. When he did manage to stay on the raft to sleep, it took the militia firing their guns into the air for hours to wake Paul up. When Paul woke up and stepped off the raft, the sea level rose twenty feet and flooded the town.

Paul’s parents decided that the East was too small for Paul, so they packed up their belongings and moved to Minnesota.