Questions

- What is one of the timeless aspects of the legend of Robin Hood?
- What is the most famous ballad that was written about Robin Hood?
- Robin Hood was most known for his mastery of what?
The Man Behind the Legend

- Was thought to be a real person
- Much speculation as to who he really was
- His identity still remains unknown
The Ballads

- Robin Hood the Monk
- Robin Hood the Potter
- Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne
- Robin Hood His Death
- A Lytell Gest of Robyn Hode
- Robin Hood and the Curtal Friar
A Lytell Gest of Robyn Hode

- The most famous of all the Robin Hood ballads
- Tells us most of what we know about him
- Earliest printed edition dates around 1500 AD
- Some historians believe that it was compiled of other, now lost, ballads.
The Legend

- Robin of Loxsley was a minor noble
- Son of Lord Loxsley
- He is portrayed as a heroic outlaw
- Most legendary for his robbing the rich to feed the poor
- Known for his masterful skills in archery
- Had “merry men” that helped him
- He had an affair with Maid Marian
Sherwood Forest

- An enormous, royal forest
- Known as “Shire Wood” in the time of Robin Hood
- It was most commonly occupied by hunters, poachers, and like Robin, outlaws
- Today little remains of this once great forest
- The main attraction now is The Major Oak
Major Oak at sherwood forest
The Timeless Aspects

- Justice
- Honor
- Chivalry
- Selflessness
- Courtesy
- Equality
- Devoutness
- Passion
How the Story Changed

- The character of Robin altered with the times
- Was originally intended for adults
- Based on political disagreements
- A bloody, gory, gruesome legend and tale
- The ballads and gests were written into plays
- Because of plays, the legend changed dramatically
Separating Fact From Fiction

Minor noble man by the name of Robin of Loxley
This man was outlawed for poaching deer in King Richard’s forest
Court records refers to a “Robert Hod” who was a fugitive in 1226
By 1300 eight people were called Robin Hood
Five of them were fugitives
There is an old gravestone marked as the final resting place of one “Robard Hude”.

The man called “Robin Hood” did not rob the rich to feed the poor
King Richard, according to historical records, would not have been king during the time of the legend of Robin Hood
The Sheriff of Nottingham is as much of a fictional character as Robin Hood himself is
The true story of Robin Hood, if there is one, was embellished and changed by the troubadours that told and re-told the legend
The Movies

Robin Hood (1922)
The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938)
The Legend of Robin Hood (1951)
Disney’s Robin Hood (1973)
Robin and Marian (1976)
Robin Hood Prince of Thieves (1991)
Robin Hood (1991)
Robin Hood: Men in Tights (1993)
Robin Hood Gang (1997)
Bibliography


- http://www.robinhood.ltd.uk/robinhood/legend.html
