

EPISODE ACTIVITY

THE FAIRY WITHOUT WINGS

GIVE IT A LISTEN!



Season 4, Episode 3
The Fairy Without Wings/
The Competition Competition

What's This Activity About?

Making up a "Creation Myth" to explain something about the world.

What Stuff Do I Need?

Paper, something to write with, and our "How Did THAT Happen??" sheet.



In "The Fairy Without Wings" by a kid from New York named Franny, two fairies discover why they are unique and end up creating something beautiful in the process: a rainbow! We thought this was a great example of a "Creation Myth," which is an imaginary story about how something in the real world (like a rainbow) first got created.

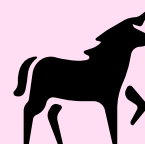


Sure, you might have heard in science class that rainbows are made by light from the sun hitting drops of water, causing the light to split into different colors--but you can still have fun using your imagination to decide on a totally different story to explain it.

Here's how to do it: Think about a question you have about the world. Why is the sky blue? Where did the sun come from? Why do giraffes have long necks? How did the ocean get where it is? Or choose whatever other question you want! Maybe you already know a scientific answer to the question, but if so, forget that for now and make up an imaginary story about it.

You can use our "How Did THAT Happen??" sheet on the next page to help you (but if you don't have a printer, just draw your own "How Did THAT Happen??" sheet)! Decide where your story takes place, who the characters are, and how they create something--like a blue sky, or the sun, or long necked giraffes. You can draw your answers, write them down, or do a little bit of both! Then write a story about it. We can't wait to see it!

If you want more inspiration, check out our "Creation Myth Collection" at the back of this Activity Guide, where you can read some creation myths from different cultures around the world!



Share It!

Grownups, please share what your kids create!
Visit storypiratescreatorclub.com/submit, or just share on social media with #StoryPirates. Email creatorclub@storypirates.org if you have any questions.

HOW DID THAT HAPPEN??

SETTING:

When and where does your story take place?

CHARACTERS:

Who are the main characters in your story? What are they like?

CREATION:

What gets created in your story? How does it get created?



CREATION MYTH COLLECTION

“WHY FIRE BELONGS TO HUMANS” (NATIVE AMERICAN MYTH FROM THE ALABAMA PEOPLE)

A long time ago, Fire belonged to Bear, who carried fire with him everywhere he went. Bear used Fire to keep his family warm, and to find his way in the dark. One day, Bear and his family went to a new forest. Bear set Fire down at the edge of the forest, and went off with his family to find food, for Bear was very hungry.

Bear and his family found yummy acorns in the forest. The acorns were so sweet that Bear and his family kept looking for more and more acorns. They ate and ate. As they ate, they went deeper and deeper into the forest, leaving Fire by itself at the edge of the forest.

After a while, Fire was hungry too! But Fire did not eat acorns like Bear. Fire needed new wood. Fire cried out to Bear to come back and feed it, but Bear was too far away, deep inside the forest. Bear could not hear Fire over the crunch crunch of the acorns he was eating.

Just then, Human was near the edge of the forest, and heard Fire cry out. Human asked Fire if Fire needed help. Fire told Human to get sticks and logs and put them in Fire to feed it. Human did, and soon Fire was big and warm and happy again.

Human enjoyed Fire's light and warmth, and Fire was thankful that Human took care of it. When Bear came back, Fire scared Bear away. This is why Fire belongs only to Human, and why Bear does not like it.



CREATION MYTH COLLECTION

“HOW THE SUN WAS MADE AND WHY KOOKABURRA SINGS FOR IT”
(DREAMTIME STORY FROM ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS)

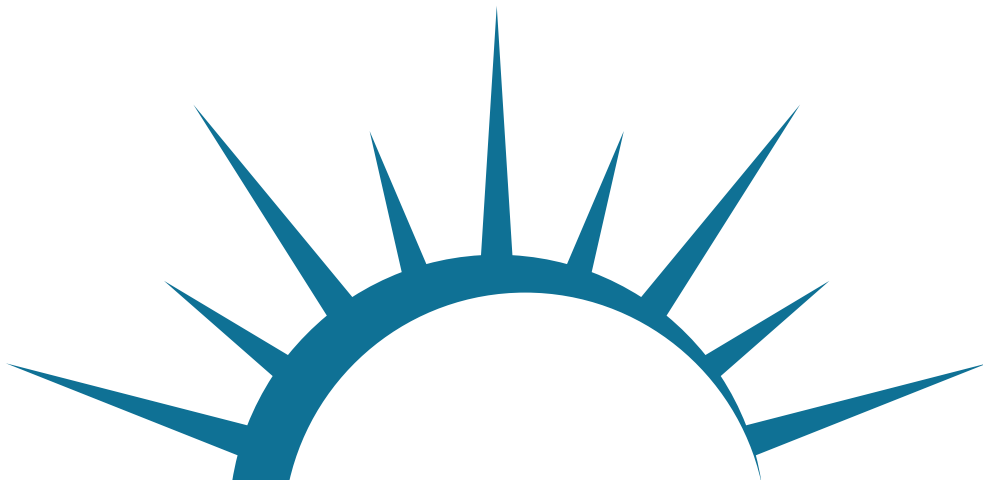
Long long ago, it was the Dreamtime, before any humans lived on Earth. There were just animals on earth, and they were then much bigger than they are now. The kangaroo's hop spanned mountains. The serpent slithered as large as a river. But in the Dreamtime the Earth was mostly dark, for there was no sun, only a moon and stars. And so the animals lived in the twilight of that gleaming.

One day, the Emu and the Dancing Bird were fighting over a nest. Their loud SQUACK SQUACK SQUACK shook the earth. The Emu said she had the nest first, but the Dancing Bird disagreed. In the nest was one gigantic deep green egg that the Emu had lain there. The Dancing Bird got so angry at the Emu that she grabbed the egg. Dancing Bird threw the egg up in the sky, where it landed on a pile of firewood on a mountaintop and burst into flames! The yellow yolk ran down the mountain, reflecting the light. Suddenly, there was light all over the world. The animals were shocked at the beauty around them, for they had not ever been able to see the world in brightness. The Emu and the Dancing Bird stopped fighting as they looked at the beauty around them.

A spirit looking down at the earth from the sky also noticed how beautiful the earth looked lit up by the blaze. The spirit thought the creatures of the earth would like to have light more often, for the light had made the Dancing Bird and Emu stop fighting.

So the spirit had an idea: the spirit got helpers to gather firewood each night and stack it up. When the stack was big enough, the spirit would light it up and light the world each day. However, the spirit wanted to be sure that the creatures of the earth would know when the fire was to be lit. So, the spirit asked the morning star to shine in the sky to let those on earth know when it was almost time each day. So the spirit tried this, and the creatures came and saw, all except for Emu and Dancing Bird who were tired from their fighting.

The spirit wanted all of the creatures of the earth to rise with the light, so the spirit asked for Kookaburra's help. Kookaburra had a Squak Squak even louder than that of Emu and Dancing Bird! The spirit asked Kookaburra to sing as the sun rose and as the sun set every day to let the creatures of the earth know what time it was. The sun has risen and set ever since, and Kookaburra has marked it with his loud laughter. And even Emu and Dancing bird are awake to see it.



CREATION MYTH COLLECTION

“WHY IT IS WARM IN SUMMER, BUT COLD IN WINTER” (ANCIENT GREEK MYTHOLOGY)

A long, long time ago before humans knew how to control the harvest, Demeter, the Greek goddess of crops had a daughter named Persephone. She was a nurturing mother, and cared for Persephone just like she cared for the earth. She tended to Persephone making sure she could flourish and be happy. She braided her golden hair, hair the color of wheat. Persephone got to play in the beautiful gardens of Mount Olympus with the other children of the gods, and was allowed to eat the bountiful fruits and vegetables that grew there under her mother's care.

The trees were full of lush green leaves. There was fruit all year round. It was always sunny. Because of Demeter's nurturing care, Persephone grew up into a beautiful woman who was even more beautiful than the flowers in the garden.

One day, as Persephone was picking a beautiful daffodil in the garden, the ground where she stood split in two! Crrrrrrrack! BOOM! Out stepped Hades, the god of the underworld, bringing his darkness and gloom with him.

The fruit on the trees shrank back, and the daffodil wilted immediately. Hades had seen Persephone's beauty and wanted her to be his queen. He called to Zeus, the king of the gods and Hades' brother, and asked him if he could marry Persephone. Zeus looked around to see how much destruction Hades had already done to the beautiful garden and, because he wanted to get rid of Hades, he agreed without asking Demeter OR Persephone! Hades carried Persephone down into the underworld as she cried out for her mother. The ground in the garden closed up, leaving wilted flowers where Hades had stood.

Demeter searched and searched for her daughter, but could not find her anywhere in the corners of the green earth. She became very sad, and as her salt tears fell to the earth, the grass wilted where they fell. The leaves on the trees turned yellow, and the cold winds began to blow. She searched and searched for her daughter, and as she became sadder, the earth got colder and colder. When she could not find Persephone, and the earth was nearly frozen over, she went to Zeus for help. Zeus told her of Persephone's marriage to Hades. Demeter was very angry, but her anger did not make the earth warm with fire, but froze over every last lake and ocean. Snow began to fall and pile up in mounds.

Zeus couldn't let the Earth completely freeze over because then he wouldn't have a very nice place to be king of, so he agreed to send Hermes, the messenger, to get Persephone back from Hades. When Hermes reached the Underworld, he told Persephone and Hades that Demeter wanted her daughter to come back to Earth, and that Zeus was sending this request. Hades did not want to lose his queen, but he did not say so. He pretended to say yes, and offered Persephone something to eat before her long journey. This was a trick by Hades, for anyone who eats or drinks in the Underworld is destined to stay there forever! Persephone was wary of Hades' offer, so she decided not to eat much. All she ate was six small pomegranate seeds, their juice as red and ruby as blood. Immediately, a CRAACKKK Boom! Sounded through the halls of Hades, as Persephone's fate became sealed. Hades told her she could never leave the Underworld, and sent Hermes back to earth to deliver the news.

When Demeter heard the news, she flew into such sadness that the snow and ice piled even higher, almost to the top of Mount Olympus where the gods lived. Zeus could not let the Earth become permanently cold and barren, and did not want to live in a snowy home himself, so he went to the Underworld to talk to his brother Hades. Zeus could not completely take Persephone back because she had eaten the seeds, but perhaps since they were only tiny seeds, they could reach a compromise. They struck a deal: each year Persephone would have to stay in the Underworld one month for each seed that she ate, but then would get to return to Earth for the other half of the year.

And so, during the six months that Persephone spends on Earth with her mother Demeter, the earth is lush and green, and full of life. Demeter is overjoyed to be reunited with her daughter. But when Persephone has to return to the Underworld, the earth becomes cold, the leaves drop from the trees, and Demeter mourns. This happens every year, and is why it is warm during spring and summer, but cold during autumn and winter.

