

Activity 1

Task: Watch the clip of Hugh based on an Apache myth. Then retell the story aloud to someone at home.

A myth is a traditional tale, which has a symbolic meaning and usually involves a lesson or moral that will be helpful to the reader. They are passed down through the generations by word of mouth.



Task: Answer the following questions about the story.

1. What is the purpose of the story?
2. Who is the main character in the story?
3. List three things that were unusual at the start of the story.
4. What changes did the children make?
5. Using your inference skills, list 3 adjectives to describe the children who made all the changes.

Activity 2

Task 1: Read the following myth and underline or highlight the fronted adverbials, noun phrases, prepositions and dialogue. The first paragraph has been done for you. After reading the myth, what do you think it is about?

A myth is a traditional tale, which has a symbolic meaning and usually involves a lesson or moral that will be helpful to the reader. They are passed down through the generations by word of mouth.

A creation myth from the Salishan Tribe

A long time ago, when the world was still new, Coyote was walking along in the desert. The sun was shining brightly and Coyote felt very hot. Wearily, he wiped the sweat from his brow and gazed up into the azure sky.

"I would like a cloud," demanded Coyote. A small, fluffy cloud appeared above Coyote's head. It made some shade for Coyote, but he was not satisfied. "I would like more clouds," he said. Immediately, more clouds came along. The sky began to look very stormy and turned as grey as the rocky mountains.



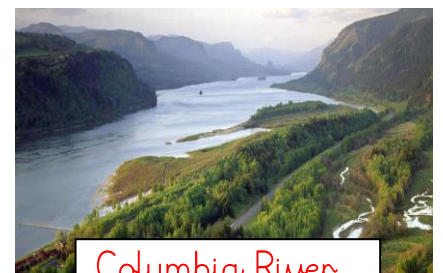
Coyote

A few minutes passed, Coyote continued his walk through the scorching desert. He was still hot. "Can I have some rain?" asked Coyote impatiently. The clouds began to sprinkle rain on Coyote. "More rain," Coyote demanded. The rain became a downpour.



"I would like a creek to put my feet in," said Coyote. Within seconds, a bubbling creek sprang up beside him and Coyote walked in it to cool off his feet. "It should be deeper," complained Coyote. Without warning, the creek became a huge, swirling river.

Suddenly, Coyote was swept up by the gurgling current and tossed over and over in the water. Desperately, he tried to breathe but was nearly drowned. Finally, Coyote was thrown up on the soft, mossy bank far away. When he woke up, the buzzards were circling in the sky above him. Hungrily, they watched him and tried to decide if he was dead. "I'm not dead," Coyote told them and they flew away.



Columbia River

That is how the Columbia River began.

Activity 3 - Fronted adverbials are be used to describe when, where or how something is happening.

When

Every day,
When the sun set,
After catching his fish,
Before he went to bed,
Early in the morning,
As soon as sun rose,
While he wasn't looking,

How

Breathing deeply,
Smiling,
With his eyes open wide,
Gazing at the field of flowers,
Walking through the long
grass,
Without warning,

Where

Under the hot sun,
Behind the large tree,
Above his head,
In the bright sky,
Beside the waterfall,
In the long grass,
At the bottom of hill,



Mississippi River

When the sun set, a scaly, venomous snake, who had an itchy belly, slithered quietly to the river to relax.

With his eyes wide open, he quietly waited for his prey.

Before he went to bed, he hissed so loudly that the tiny river was extended by another 2000 feet.

That is how the Mississippi River began.

Task: Using a range of fronted adverbials for where, when and how, write down three sentences to describe how each natural feature was created in each picture.

This will help you when you are writing your own myth. You can use a different animal for each picture. For example, a bird could paint the desert or a rhino could become extremely angry and make a huge crack in the earth, which is now called the Grand Canyon.



The Painted Desert,
Arizona



Niagara Falls, New York



The Grand Canyon,
Arizona

Activity 4

Task: Plan your own myth to explain how a change has happened.

Here are a list of examples:

- How a leopard got its spots.
- How a camel got its hump.
- How Niagara Falls was created.
- How a rainbow is formed.
- How a tiger got its roar.

Example of a plan:

Title: How rainbows are formed.

You do not need to write in full sentences because it is a plan.

Introduction

- Many years ago,
- Very little rain
- Sky was full of emptiness and nothing but dull clouds
- Nanabozho knew he had to make changes to bring some colour to sky

Build up

- The following day,
- Took out his paint pots
- Painted flowers roses and lots of daffodils
- Tirelessly, he worked to make the meadow brighter

Problem

- Above the clouds, two birds playing
- Both racing each other
- First bird's wing dipped into the red pot
- Second bird's wing dipped into orange pot
- Moments later, the bird's feathers were covered with all the colours

Resolution

- Reluctantly, the birds flew away from the paint pots
- Later, they were chasing each other over the waterfall
- As they raced each other, they left streaks of all the colours
- As the sun shone brightly, colours sparkled radiantly

Ending

- Arch of red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet shimmered in the sky above the waterfall.
- "You have made a rainbow" shouted Nanabozho.
- That is how rainbows are formed.

Activity 5

Task 1: Write your own myth using your plan from activity 4 to help you. You will need to include **fronted adverbials, noun phrases and prepositions**. Read my myth below to help you write yours. What do you think was made and can you explain how?

A Creation Tale from the Ojibwe Nation

One day when the earth was new, Nanabozho stepped out of his teepee and gazed at the meadow stretching before him. With a heavy heart, he realised that all of the flowers in his meadow were exactly the same off-white colour. How boring! He decided to make a change, so he gathered up his paints and his paintbrushes and went out to the plains.

Beneath the beating sun, Nanabozho sat down in the tall grass and arranged his red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet paint pots next to him. Patiently, he began to paint the flowers in his meadow in many different colours. He made the roses red and painted every single daffodil bright yellow. Humming happily, Nanabozho worked tirelessly in the daylight provided by Brother Sun.

Above the clouds, two mischievous bluebirds played games with each other. The first bluebird raced across the azure sky. Zappity-zing! The second bluebird chased him in the sunshine between the soft clouds. As the first bird soared passed Nanabozho, his right wing dipped into the red paint pot. When the second bluebird soared towards the grass, his left wing grazed the orange paint pot. Soon their feet and feathers were covered with paint of all colours. Shaking his fists in the air, Nanabozho eventually stood up and shoed the birds away.

Reluctantly, the bluebirds flew away and they started chasing each other again over the top of the giant waterfall. Zippity-zip! The first bluebird flew through the misty spray of the waterfall and left a long red paint streak against the sky. Zappity-zing! The second bluebird chased his friend through the mist, leaving an orange paint streak. This time, the first bluebird left a yellow paint streak and the second left a pretty blue-violet paint streak. As they raced back and forth, the colours grew more vivid. When Brother Sun shone on the colours, they sparkled radiantly through the mist of the waterfall.



Below them, Nanabozho looked up in delight when the brilliant colours spilled over his meadow. A gorgeous arch of red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet shimmered in the sky above the waterfall. Nanabozho smiled at the funny little bluebirds and said, "You have made a rainbow!" From that day on, whenever Brother Sun shines his light on the rain or the mist, a beautiful rainbow forms.

Fronted adverbials:

Many moons ago,
Breathing heavily,
Rapidly,
Above the clouds,
Moments later,

Prepositions:

above
below
between
beneath
behind

Noun phrases:

the azure sky
the beaming, bright sun
the crashing waves
a fluffy, soft clouds
a vivid rainbow