



THE FLIPSIDE



ASSIGNMENT: *Native Americans passed down legends from parent to child to explain the mysteries of nature. Write an original Native American-type legend.*

Many, many moons ago when Raccoon had no mask on his face, Raccoon did not like the way he lived. One night Raccoon decided to go to Bear's cave to get meat scraps and intended on being like Fox, sly and sneaky. So he went deep into the forest. On the way he met Owl. Raccoon quickly scampered off, relieved. He hadn't realized that Owl was looming above him. Owl suddenly spoke. "How are you doing tonight, Raccoon?"

Suddenly Raccoon spoke. "How did y-y-you get here? I thought y-y-you were sleeping." Raccoon looked everywhere for a place to hide, but he was completely out of luck. Luckily, Raccoon had an idea. He saw the juicy blackberries and smeared the blackish juice all around his eyes and nose. Now he decided that nobody would see him, and he was correct. Owl had flown away because he had given up. Raccoon was delighted! He had finally found a way to blend in with the night.

UMA ALAGAPPAN
Third Grade

One summer day Owl woke up from his rest. On his way he met Wolf.

"Hello Wolf," said Owl.
"Hello Owl," said Wolf.
"Tonight will be a full moon."
"Where will you be?" asked Owl.

"Oh, up at the mountain where a big tree is by the moon," said Wolf.

"I'll be there," said Owl. So Owl went up with Wolf to the mountain that had a tree that was close to the moon.

"Well, good night," said Owl.
"Good night," said Wolf.

Owl indeed went to sleep, but Wolf didn't. Wolf howled as hard as he could, but the tree was right next to where Owl was sleeping. Wolf howled so loud that Owl couldn't sleep. That's why owls can't sleep to this day.

LUKE FARRELL
Third Grade

A long time ago, there was a family of wolves. One day the family got separated, and one wolf was alone. He howled at the moon and asked other wolves if they had seen his family. One day Wolf saw another wolf on the moon. Then he tried to talk to Moon Wolf. Moon Wolf didn't hear Wolf. Wolf climbed up a tree and tried. Moon Wolf still didn't hear. Wolf howled at the moon. To this day all wolves howl at the moon.

MICHAEL WAITE
Third Grade

A long time ago Butterfly was gray. But one day Fox came along. Fox was a trickster and didn't like Butterfly's gray body, so he had a plan. The next day, Fox told Butterfly to meet him. His plan was to pour berry juice on her. Just when she didn't expect it, SPLAT! She was so colorful, she actually liked it. This time Fox had failed. Butterfly kept saying, "I am colorful! I am colorful!" and ever since then, butterflies have been colorful.

MADISON KALTER
Third Grade

Eighty sunsets ago Squirrel was walking in the forest and saw Fox. Fox was told to bring all of his friends. Fox brought Bear, Deer, Beaver, Raccoon, Frog, and Wolf.

The day was going well until Bear and Wolf got into a fight. Deer, Raccoon, and Frog joined. Beaver crept behind Squirrel since he was watching the fight.

"My goodness," said Squirrel.

Beaver yanked Squirrel's tail and jumped into the fight.

"Oooouuuucccccchhhh!" yelled Squirrel as his tail expanded.

That is how Squirrel's tail got so long.

CHRISTOPHER AMMANN
Third Grade

One day, Beaver was busy cutting down trees when Fox came along. Beaver was very busy and did not look up when Fox said, "Hello."

The Fox pushed Beaver's fat tail, and Beaver turned around.

"Hi, Beaver," repeated Fox.

"What do you want?" asked Beaver.

Fox whispered in Beaver's ear, "There are trees next to the mountains."

He did not reveal the secret that there were loose rocks next to the trees.

"I'll go with you," Beaver answered and he trotted along with Fox, who zoomed ahead. Where two paths were connected, Bear walked peacefully until Fox raced past, causing Bear to stop short.

"Hey!" Bear barked at Fox, "I'm walking here!" And with that, Beaver walked by.

Beaver said to Bear, "You want to walk?"

"Sure," answered Bear.

"Go ahead," Beaver said as he stepped back. When Bear passed, Beaver shouted, "Hey, Fox! Wait up!" hoping to stay by Fox's side. When they arrived at the mountains, Fox said, "Get to work and I'll leave."

Beaver cut tree after tree until he fell asleep. Meanwhile, Fox was high on the cliff. He spotted a boulder and pushed it onto Beaver's tail. Fox fled.

The next day Fox was nowhere to be seen. Beaver thought Fox was in his den in the woods. Then Beaver grabbed the trees and tried to walk to the woods, but he couldn't. Then he saw what was wrong. A boulder had pinned his tail to the soil.

Later that day, Bear came along. He said, "Need a little help?"

"Yes," Beaver answered.

Bear lifted the rock off Beaver's tail. Beaver realized his tail was flat. Then Beaver said, "Thanks" to Bear, grabbed the trees and left.

DECLAN HUDDLESTON
Third Grade

