

Creation Curriculum for Kids

Narratives, Crafts, and Activities from the World's Faith Traditions



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Rev. Vicki Michela Garlock, Ph.D.

Founder, Faith Seeker Kids

Minister of Education, Jubilee! Community Church, Asheville, NC

Overall Approach

- Themes

 - Peace

 - Compassion

 - Embracing the Darkness

 - Awe & Wonder

 - Blessings & Gratitude

 - Creation Stories from Around the World

- Age Groups

 - Preschool-Kindergarten

 - Lower Elementary

 - Upper Elementary

 - Middle School



Creation Stories

- Indigenous Tribes
 - Native American
 - Sub-Saharan African
 - Aboriginal/Maori
- Ancient/Polytheistic Traditions
 - Egypt
 - Greece
 - Nordic
- Science (Big Bang Theory and Evolution)
- Qur'an



Origins of the World

- Ex-Nihilo
- World Parent

Rangi and Papa



Maori Creation Story in Sand Art



Origins of the World

- Ex-Nihilo
- World Parent
 - Rangi and Papa
- Dismemberment
 - Ymir/Prose Edda
 - Rig Veda



Rig Veda, Mandala 10, Purusha

The moon was created from the mind of the *paramatman*. His eyes became the sun. Indra and Agni were born from the mouth and Vayu was created from the breath of life.

The atmosphere was made from the *paramatman's* navel. His head became heaven and his feet the earth. The directions were created from his ears. In this fashion, other worlds can be thought to have been created from other parts of the *paramatman's* anatomy.

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- Earth Diver



Origins of the World

- **Ex-Nihilo**
- **World Parent**
 - Rangi and Papa
- **Dismemberment**
 - Ymir/Prose Edda
 - Rig Veda
- **Earth Diver**
- **Cosmic Egg**



Origins of Features/Characteristics

Native American

- How Rabbit got Wisdom
- Why the Owl Lives away from the People

Aboriginal/Maori

- How the Kangaroo got her Pouch
- Why Frogs can only Croak
- How the Crocodile got its Scales

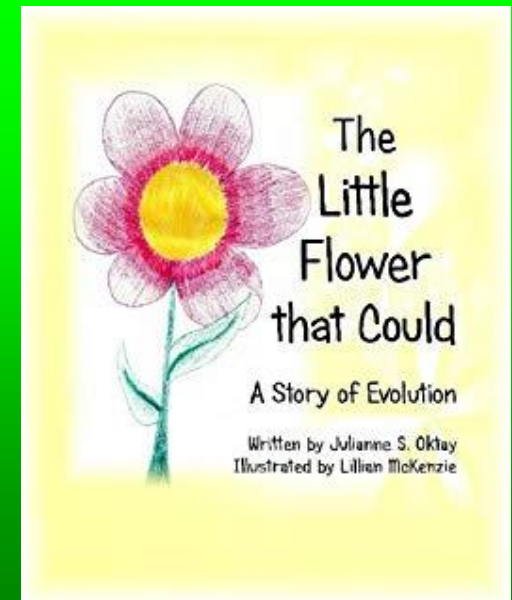
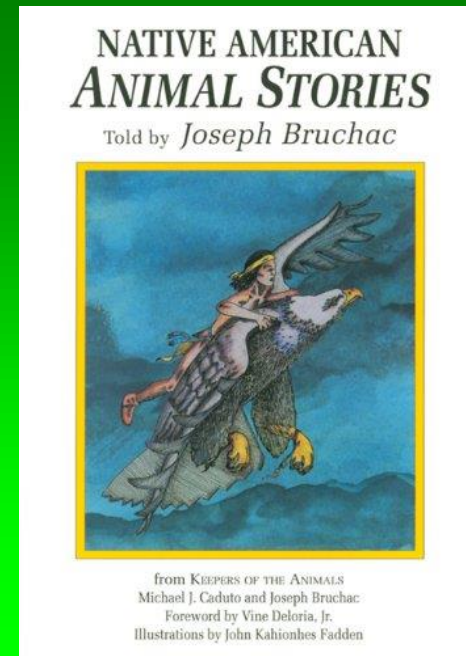
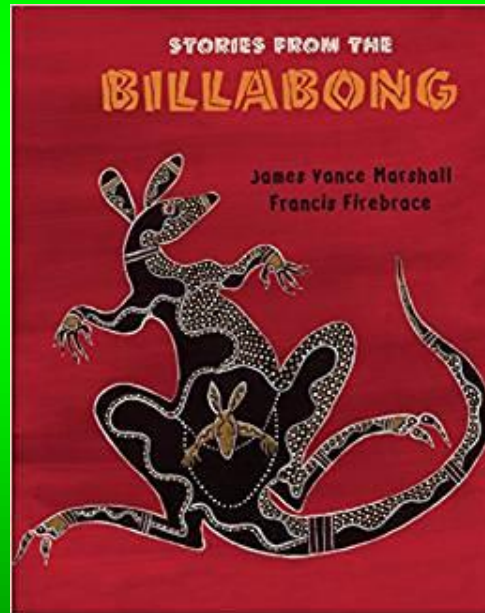
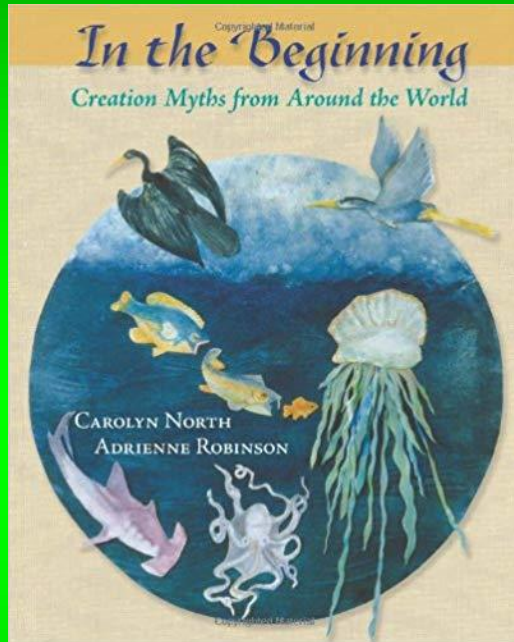
Sub-Saharan African

- Why the Hawk Catches Chickens
- Why the Hippopotamus Lives in the Water
- Why Monkeys Live in Trees
- Why the Turtle has a Hard Cover
- Why the Elephant is Large in Front and Small Behind

- Why the Praying Mantis has a Thin Belly
- How Crab got his Shell
- Why Tortoise is Bald
- Why the Lizard Bobs its Head
- How the Hyena's Fur became Striped

- How Anansi got his Bald Head
- Why Anansi is Very Thin in the Middle
- Why Anansi Hides in Dark Corners
- Why Anansi Eats Flies, Moths, and Mosquitoes

Lotsa Books!



How Grandmother Spider Stole the Sun

- Choctaw, Cherokee, Muskogee
- Story
- Crafts
- Activities



How the Crow brought Light to the World

- Inuit, Haida
- Story
- Crafts
- Activities



Creation Stories for Kids

Becoming Me: A Story of Creation by Martin Boroson & Christopher Gilvan-Cartwright (Skylight Paths Pub., 2011)

Born with a Bang: The Universe Tells our Cosmic Story (Book One) by Jennifer Morgan & Dana Lynne Andersen (Dawn Publications, 2002)

Creation Read-Aloud Stories from Many Lands by Ann Pilling & Michael Foreman (Candlewick Press, 1997)

The Four Corners of the Sky: Creation Stories and Cosmologies from Around the World by Steve Zeitlin & Chris Raschka (Henry Holt and Co., 2000)

In the Beginning: Creation Stories from Around the World by Virginia Hamilton & Barry Moser (Harcourt Brace, 1988)

Keepers of the Earth: Native American Stories and Environmental Activities for Children by Michael J. Caduto & Joseph Bruchac (Fulcrum, 1988)

The Little Flower that Could: A Story of Evolution by Julianne S. Oktay & Lillian McKenzie 2012

Mammals Who Morph: The Universe Tells our Evolution Story (Book Three) by Jennifer Morgan & Dana Lynne Andersen (Dawn Publications, 2006)

Marduk the Mighty: And Other Creation Stories of Creation by Andrew Matthews & Sheila Moxley (Millbrook Press, 1997)

Native American Animal Stories by Joseph Bruchac (Fulcrum, 1992)

Our Family Tree: An Evolution Story by Lisa Westberg Peters & Lauren Singer (HMH Books for Young Readers, 2003)

Stories from the Billabong by James Vance Marshall & Francis Firebrace (Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2008)

The Tree of Life: The Wonders of Evolution by Ellen Jackson (auth.) and Judeanne Winter Wiley (illus.) (Prometheus Books, 2004)

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