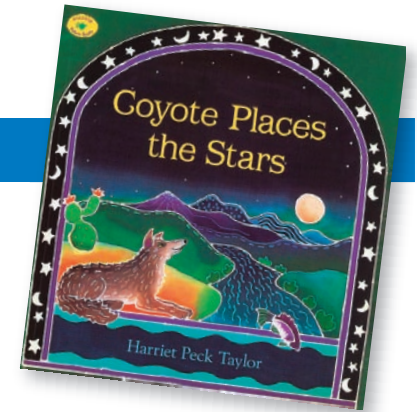


Coyote Places the Stars



A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Myths, American Indian Culture, Astronomy

Grade Level: K to 2nd grade

Book Brief: A Wasco Indian legend explains how Coyote put the stars in the sky.

Author and Illustrator:
Harriet Peck Taylor



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: What do the children know about constellations? Can they name any? Look at the pictures on the first few pages of the book. How do they show where the story takes place? Based on the title, what do we already know about the story?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

BOX OF STARS (AGES 7-12)

Materials: shoebox, flashlight, paper, tape, scissors, pin

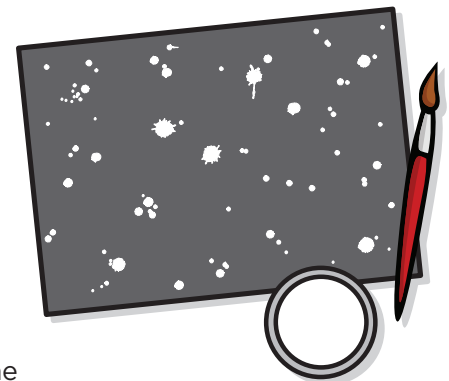
1. At one end of the shoebox, cut a hole big enough to put the flashlight through. Cut out the other end of the shoe box. Use it as a model and trace the shape on paper.
2. Use a star chart or picture from a book or the internet to draw one of the constellations inside the traced rectangle. Make dots where the stars would be. Use the pin to poke a hole through the paper wherever there is a star.
3. Tape the paper to the open end of the shoebox. Put the flashlight in the other end of the box. You can prop the flashlight on books to make it steadier. Turn on the flashlight and project the constellation onto a blank wall or the ceiling.

You can use the same box and make as many constellation sheets as you want.

PAINT SPECK CONSTELLATIONS (AGES 5-12)

Materials: black construction paper, white or silver paint, paint brushes or old toothbrushes

Dip paint brush in paint. Move brush over paper and tap lightly to shake off specks of paint. Try to make a pattern that looks like the night sky. Older children can try to make a real constellation like the Big Dipper or Draco. If you use an old toothbrush, run bristles over a popsicle stick to flick off the paint like stars. (A good source for star charts is www.spaceplace.nasa.gov/starfinder.)



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Coyote and the Laughing Butterflies (1996), *Secrets of the Stone* (2000), *When Bear Stole the Chinook* (1997), *Brother Wolf: A Seneca Tale* (1996).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

www.rif.org/kids



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