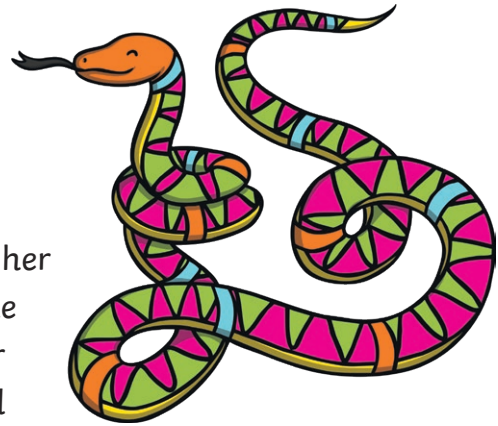


# The Rainbow Serpent

**The following story is based on a traditional Aboriginal Dreaming story involving the Rainbow Serpent.**

In the Dreaming, the earth lay flat and still. One day, the Rainbow Serpent woke up from her sleep and came out from under the ground.

She formed mountains, valleys and rivers with her slithering body. The Rainbow Serpent was the Dreaming creature who shaped the earth. After all of her travelling, she grew tired and curled up and slept.



After some rest, she returned to the place she had first appeared and called out to the frogs, "Come out!" The frogs woke up very slowly because they had so much water in their bellies. The Rainbow Serpent tickled their stomachs and the water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left. This is how the lakes and rivers were formed.

Then, water, grass and trees began to grow. All the other animals that lived in rocks, on the plains, in the trees and the air began to wake up and follow the Rainbow Serpent. They were all happy with the earth.

The Rainbow Serpent made laws that they all had to follow. Some did not like this and began to cause trouble. The Rainbow Serpent said, "Those who obey will be rewarded; I shall give them human form. But, for those who don't, they will be punished and turned to stone".

The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent. They knew that the land would always be theirs, as long as they took care of it. They believed that no one should ever take it away from them.



# Questions

1. The following passage comes from the story, "The Rainbow Serpent".  
Fill in the missing words.

The Rainbow Serpent was the \_\_\_\_\_ creature who shaped the earth. After all of her travelling, she grew tired and curled up and slept. After some rest, she returned to the place she had first appeared and called out to the \_\_\_\_\_, "Come out!" The frogs woke up very slowly because they had so much \_\_\_\_\_ in their \_\_\_\_\_. The Rainbow Serpent tickled their stomachs and the water began to fill the \_\_\_\_\_ that the Rainbow Serpent had left. This is how the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were formed.

2. Use the passage above to do the following:
- a) Highlight the pronouns in blue. Pronouns are used to replace nouns.  
For example: they, them, us.
  - b) Circle the nouns in red. Nouns are words that tell us a person, animal, thing, thing or idea. For example: tree, ring, apple.
3. Circle the words that have the long "a" sound
- a) rainbow, creature, shaped
  - b) travelling, after, place
  - c) ate, aboriginal, Dreaming

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

4. a) The Rainbow Serpent woke up from her sleep and came out from under the ground.  
b) The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent.
5. a) The water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left.  
b) The Rainbow Serpent called out to the frogs.
6. a) The tribes knew they had to take care of the land.  
b) The Rainbow Serpent grew tired and curled up and slept.

7. List two interesting things you learned from this Aboriginal Dreaming story.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Challenge Option

Draw a picture of your favourite part of “The Rainbow Serpent”.

Write at least two sentences explaining what you have drawn.

---



---



---



---

# Answers

1. The following passage comes from the story, "The Rainbow Serpent".  
Fill in the missing words.

The Rainbow Serpent was the **Dreaming** creature who shaped the earth. After all of her travelling, she grew tired and curled up and slept. After some rest, she returned to the place she had first appeared and called out to the **frogs**, "Come out!" The frogs woke up very slowly because they had so much **water** in their **bellies**. The Rainbow Serpent tickled their stomachs and the water began to fill the **tracks** that the Rainbow Serpent had left. This is how the **lakes** and **rivers** were formed.

2. Use the passage above to do the following:
  - a) Highlight the pronouns in blue. Pronouns are used to replace nouns.  
**her, she, she, she, they, their, their.**
  - b) Circle the nouns in red. Nouns are words that tell us a person, animal, thing, thing or idea.  
**creature, earth, frogs, frogs, water, bellies, stomachs, water, tracks, lakes, rivers.**
3. Circle the words that have the long "a" sound
  - a) **rainbow**, creature, **shaped**
  - b) travelling, after, **place**
  - c) **ate**, aboriginal, Dreaming

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

4. a) **The Rainbow Serpent woke up from her sleep and came out from under the ground.**  
b) The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent.
5. a) The water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left.  
b) **The Rainbow Serpent called out to the frogs.**
6. a) The tribes knew they had to take care of the land.  
b) **The Rainbow Serpent grew tired and curled up and slept.**

7. List two interesting things you learned from this Aboriginal Dreaming story.

**Answers will vary. Students will write two things that they learnt or found interesting.**

### **Challenge Option**

Draw a picture of your favourite part of “The Rainbow Serpent”. Write at least two sentences explaining what you have drawn.

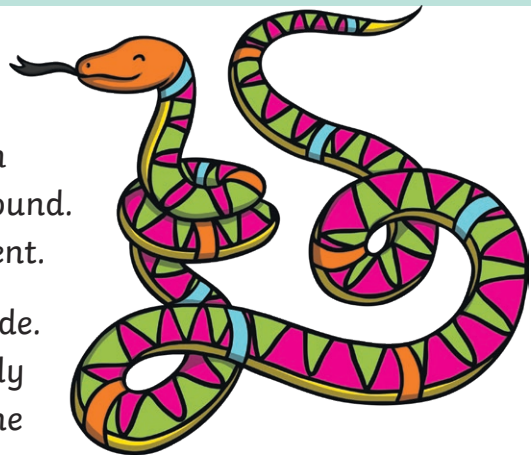
**Answers will vary.**

**Students will draw their favourite part and write two sentences explaining their illustration.**

# The Rainbow Serpent

**The following story is based on a traditional Aboriginal Dreaming story involving the Rainbow Serpent.**

Long ago in the Dreaming, the earth lay flat and still. Nothing moved and nothing grew. One day, a beautiful snake awoke from her slumber and came out from under the ground. This snake was known as the Rainbow Serpent.



She travelled for a very long time, far and wide. As she made her way across the land, her body formed mountains, valleys and rivers. The Rainbow Serpent was the Dreaming creature who shaped the earth. After all of her travelling, she grew tired and curled up and slept.



After some rest, she returned to the place she had first appeared and called out to the frogs, "Come out!" The frogs woke up very slowly because they had so much water in their bellies. The Rainbow Serpent tickled their stomachs and the water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left. This is how the lakes and rivers were formed.

After this, water, grass and trees began to grow. All the other animals that lived in rocks, on the plains, in the trees and the air began to wake up and follow the Rainbow Serpent. They were all happy with the earth.

The Rainbow Serpent made laws to follow. Some did not like this and began to cause trouble. The Rainbow Serpent said, "Those who obey will be rewarded; I shall give them human form. But, for those who don't, they will be punished and turned to stone".

The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent. They knew that the land would always be theirs, as long as they took care of it. They believed that no one should ever take it away from them.



# Questions

1. What formed the mountains, valleys and rivers?
  - a) Tribes of people.
  - b) Water from the frogs' bellies.
  - c) The Rainbow Serpent's body.
  - d) They were there from the time of creation.
2. Why did the frogs wake up slowly?
  - a) They were tired.
  - b) They didn't hear the Rainbow Serpent call out to them.
  - c) They wanted to cause trouble.
  - d) They had so much water in their bellies.
3. What happened to the animals who did not obey the laws?
  - a) They caused trouble.
  - b) They were taken away.
  - c) They were punished and turned to stone.
  - d) They were made into humans.
4. Complete the sentences using the following words from the text.

slumber

plains

obey

punished

appeared

- a) The parent \_\_\_\_\_ their child because they were naughty.
  - b) The bright sun suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ in the sky when the clouds moved away.
  - c) I had to \_\_\_\_\_ the rules otherwise I would have lost the game.
  - d) I went over to my friend's house for a \_\_\_\_\_ party.
  - e) The animals hurried across the open \_\_\_\_\_ in search of food.
5. Circle the words that have the long 'a' sound.
    - a) rainbow, creature, shaped
    - b) travelling, after, place
    - c) ate, aboriginal, Dreaming



Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) The Rainbow Serpent awoke from her slumber and emerged from under the ground.  
b) The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent.
7. a) The water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left.  
b) The Rainbow Serpent called out to the frogs.
8. a) The tribes of people knew they had to take care of the land.  
b) The Rainbow Serpent grew weary and curled up and slept.
9. Write all the words from "The Rainbow Serpent" below, that have three syllables.

---



---



---



---

## Challenge Option

Create a storyboard of "The Rainbow Serpent" using five-six drawings. You also need to include two to three sentences explaining what each picture is about.



# Answers

1. What formed the mountains, valleys and rivers?
  - a) Tribes of people.
  - b) Water from the frogs' bellies.
  - c) The Rainbow Serpent's body.**
  - d) They were there from the time of creation.
2. Why did the frogs wake up slowly?
  - a) They were tired.
  - b) They didn't hear the Rainbow Serpent call out to them.
  - c) They wanted to cause trouble.
  - d) They had so much water in their bellies.**
3. What happened to the animals who did not obey the laws?
  - a) They caused trouble.
  - b) They were taken away.
  - c) They were punished and turned to stone.**
  - d) They were made into humans.
4. Complete the sentences using the following words from the text.

slumber

plains

obey

punished

appeared

- a) The parent **punished** their child because they were naughty.
  - b) The bright sun suddenly **appeared** in the sky when the clouds moved away.
  - c) I had to **obey** the rules otherwise I would have lost the game.
  - d) I went over to my friend's house for a **slumber** party.
  - e) The animals hurried across the open **plains** in search of food.
5. Circle the words that have the long 'a' sound.
    - a) **rainbow**, creature, **shaped**
    - b) travelling, after, **place**
    - c) **ate**, aboriginal, Dreaming

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) **The Rainbow Serpent awoke from her slumber and emerged from under the ground.**  
b) The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent.
7. a) The water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left.  
b) **The Rainbow Serpent called out to the frogs.**
8. a) The tribes of people knew they had to take care of the land.  
b) **The Rainbow Serpent grew weary and curled up and slept.**
9. Write all the words from “The Rainbow Serpent” below, that have three syllables.  
**beautiful, travelling, rewarded, together, animals.**

### Challenge Option

Create a storyboard of “The Rainbow Serpent “. You also need to include two to three sentences explaining what each picture is about.

**Answers will vary. Students will need to draw pictures for different parts of the story. They will need to write an explanation/description about what each picture is. Give credit to students for correct order, organisation and description.**

# The Rainbow Serpent

**The following story is based on a traditional Aboriginal Dreaming story involving the Rainbow Serpent.**

Long, long ago in the Dreaming, the earth lay flat and motionless. Nothing moved and nothing grew. One day, a beautiful snake awoke from her slumber and emerged from under the ground. This snake was known as the Rainbow Serpent.



She travelled for a significant time, far and wide. As she moved across the land, her body formed mountains, valleys and rivers. The Rainbow Serpent was the Dreaming creature who shaped the earth. After all of her wandering, she grew weary and curled up and slept.



After some rest, she returned to the place she had first appeared and called out to the frogs, "Come out!" The frogs awakened very slowly because they had an excess of water in their bellies. The Rainbow Serpent tickled their stomachs and the water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left. This is how the lakes and rivers were formed.

After this, water, grass and trees began to grow. All the other animals that lived in rocks, on the plains, in the trees and the air began to wake up and follow the Rainbow Serpent. They were all content with the earth.

The Rainbow Serpent made laws that they all had to obey. Some did not appreciate this and began to cause trouble. The Rainbow Serpent said, "Those who obey will be rewarded; I shall give them human form. But, for those who don't, they will be punished and turned to stone".

The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent. They knew that the land would always be theirs, as long as they took care of it. They believed that no one should ever take it away from them.



# Questions

1. What formed the mountains, valleys and rivers?

---

---

2. Why did the frogs wake up slowly?

---

---

3. What happened to the animals who did not obey the laws?

---

---

4. The words in the box come from the text. Use a dictionary to find their meaning.

slumber

plains

obey

punished

appeared

slumber:

---

plains:

---

obey:

---

punished:

---

appeared:

---

5. Circle the words that have the long 'a' sound.

a) rainbow, creature, shaped

b) travelling, after, place

c) ate, aboriginal, Dreaming

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) The Rainbow Serpent awoke from her slumber and emerged from under the ground.  
b) The tribes lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent.
7. a) The water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left.  
b) The Rainbow Serpent called out to the frogs.
8. a) The tribes of people knew they had to take care of the land.  
b) The Rainbow Serpent grew weary and curled up and slept.
9. Create a list of all the words that have two and three syllables.

Two Syllables

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Three Syllables

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Challenge Option

Create your own "The Rainbow Serpent" Aboriginal Dreaming story to explain how something was created. Illustrate your story.

# Answers

1. What formed the mountains, valleys and rivers?

**As the Rainbow Serpent made her way across the land, her body formed the mountains, valleys and rivers. The Rainbow Serpent was the creature who shaped the earth.**

2. Why did the frogs wake up slowly?

**The frogs woke up slowly because they had so much water in their bellies.**

3. What happened to the animals who did not obey the laws?

**The animals that did not follow the laws, and broke them were punished by being turned into stone.**

4. The words in the box come from the text. Use a dictionary to find their meaning.

slumber

plains

obey

punished

appeared

Slumber: **To sleep, especially lightly.**

plains: **Extensive tracts of level or almost level treeless countryside.**

obey: **To comply with or follow the commands, restrictions, wishes or instructions of someone.**

punished: **To force (someone) to undergo a penalty, to use or to treat harshly or roughly.**

appeared: **To come into sight and to become visible.**

5. Circle the words that have the long “a” sound.

a) **rainbow**, creature, **shaped**

b) travelling, after, **place**

c) **ate**, aboriginal, Dreaming

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) **The Rainbow Serpent awoke from her slumber and came out from under the ground.**  
b) The tribes of people lived together on the land given to them by the Rainbow Serpent.
7. a) The water began to fill the tracks that the Rainbow Serpent had left.  
b) **The Rainbow Serpent called out to the frogs.**
8. a) The tribes of people knew they had to take care of the land.  
b) **The Rainbow Serpent grew tired and curled up and slept.**

9. Create lists of all the words that have two and three syllables.

**Two Syllables**

**ago, Dreaming, nothing, awoke, slumber, emerged, under, Rainbow, Serpent, travelled, across, body, mountains, valleys, rivers, creature, after, weary, returned, appeared, very, slowly, because, water, excess, bellies, tickled, stomachs, began, other, follow, content, obey, trouble, human, punished, given, always, believed, ever, away.**

**Three Syllables**

**motionless, beautiful, wandering, awakened, rewarded, together, animals.**

**Challenge Option**

Create your own “Rainbow Serpent” Aboriginal Dreaming story to explain how something was created. Illustrate your story.

**Answers will vary.**