

## Creating Your Own Myth

Now that you have read and listened to several Native American myths, It is time for you and a partner to develop your own “creation myth.”

### Think about the following ideas:

- According to N. Scott Momaday, the Native American “is deeply invested in the earth, committed to it both in his consciousness and in his instinct. In him, the sense of place is paramount. Only in reference to the earth can he persist in his true identity.”
- Animals are often important in Native American myths. Often animals give advice, help humans learn lessons, or personify ideas like courage and determination.
- Creation myths help explain how we came to be. Often nature plays an important role in Native American myths.
- Native Americans valued and revered nature in its many forms.
- Some Native American myths seek to explain natural phenomenon in our world (why crickets chirp, the origin of lightening, why the wind blows, etc.).
- Many Native American myths feature a trickster—like the Coyote who tries to fool humans into believing his story.

### Your actions

1. Using one of these ideas, create your own 500 word myth.
2. Your myth should reflect the spirit of those read in class without copying the storyline verbatim.
3. You must visually depict the myth in a storyboard on an 11” x 17” poster. (See an example of storyboard below.)
4. You must work as a team and divide the responsibilities of this project accordingly.
5. Be prepared to give a brief synopsis of your presentation (2-3 minutes).

