

Another Aboriginal myth



Read this Aboriginal **myth** about fire and answer the questions that follow.

The Capture of Fire



Goodah, a noted magician, captured a piece of lightning as it struck a dead tree during a storm. He imprisoned it as a convenient way to make fire for his own use and ignored demands that he share this wonderful discovery. At last the tribe became so enraged with Goodah that a group of elders called up a whirlwind just as Goodah had made a fire with his piece of lightning. The whirlwind picked up the fire and scattered it all over the country, and fire became common property when members of the tribe picked up enough burning wood to make fires for themselves.

To escape the jeers and laughter of the tribe, Goodah fled to the hills to sulk, and to plan revenge.

From *Dreamtime Heritage* by A. and M. J. Roberts

How would you describe Goodah's behavior?

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.....

.....

What does **common property** mean?

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.....

.....

Do you think Goodah was right to feel angry with the tribe for calling up a whirlwind?

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.....



Remember: Plan the **beginning**, **middle**, and **end** of your story in your **notes**. Use a **paragraph** for each different idea.

[illegible]

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How would you describe Goodah's behavior?

Goodah's behavior was very selfish toward the other members of the tribe.

What does **common property** mean?

Common property means that something belongs to everyone, not just one or a few people.

Do you think Goodah was right to feel angry with the tribe for calling up a whirlwind?

Answers may vary

Another Aboriginal myth is presented on this page. Talk about the story together. What does your child think of Goodah's behavior? Accept any answers that are appropriate to the text.



Remember: Plan the **beginning, middle, and end** of your story in your **notes**. Use a **paragraph** for each different idea.

The Capture of Fire, and Goodah's Revenge

Answers may vary

The task on this page is to write an ending to a traditional story. Listen to your child read his or her completed story aloud. Discuss its content and structure together. Say what you admire about your child's creative writing.