

Virtual

LONE STAR Storytelling Festival



Discussion Guide

“Grandmother Spider Brings the Light”

Facts on Fiction: “Grandmother Spider Brings the Light” is a *pourquoi* story. A *pourquoi* story is a story that explains the origins of something. Stories like these were used in ancient times when cultures did not have a scientific explanation for the things happening around them.

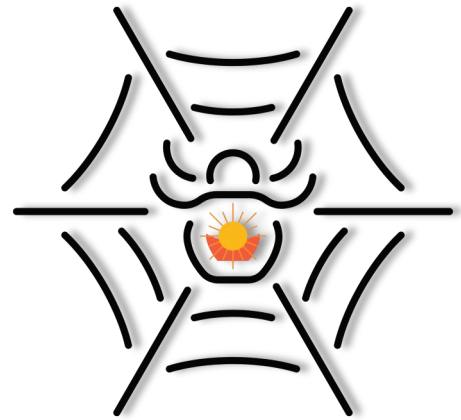
Which animal was the one to suggest getting light from “the crack in the sky?”
What do we call the “crack in the sky” in science?

Who volunteered to bring back the light first? Who volunteered second?

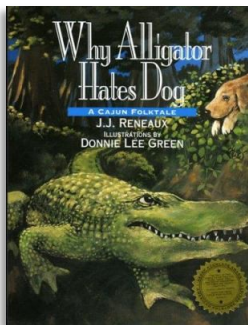
How was repetition used in this story?
Did it make the story easier to follow or remember later?

What other natural things are explained in this *pourquoi* story besides sunlight?

What other animals could be added to this story?
What part of their appearance would this story explain?



If you want to read more *pourquoi* stories, check out these books:



[How Music Came to the World: An Ancient Mexican Myth by Hal Ober](#)

[How the Guinea Fowl Got Her Spots: A Swahili Tale by Barbara Knutson](#)

[The Raven and the Loon by Rachel Qitsualik-Tinsley](#)

[Why the Crab Has No Head: An African Tale by Barbara Knutson](#)

[Why Alligator Hates Dog: A Cajun Folk Tale by J.J. Renaux](#)

Learn a *pourquoi* story and tell it to your friends or family!