

# World Kids

Fun for kids!



True stories!

## PAL Project

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Did you ever wonder which came first - the chicken or the egg?

Well the answer depends on which creation story you believe!! If you believe the Bible, the answer is very clear! (If you're still not sure, read the answer at the end!). But for thousands of years all around the world, people have asked that question or something similar - wanting to understand how life and this world began. There are **MANY** stories that have been passed down through the ages that have tried to give an explanation - some are seen as just ancient myths, but many are accepted and actually believed because of either tribal traditions or theories that are taught in school. Even in America today, there are people who still strongly believe in traditional Native American stories; and of course the Theory of Evolution is often taught as **FACT** in schools, although there are still many questions and even some evidence to disprove it! An excellent website to learn more about this is at:

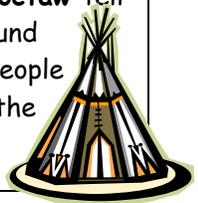
<http://www.clarifyingchristianity.com/creation.shtml>

So this month we want to look at some of the very different and fascinating creation stories believed by people in many different parts of the world.

In **China** there are several variations of the ancient creation myth that tells of "Pangu". In the beginning there was an egg and nothing else. The egg was the universe, but there were no heavens and no earth, just darkness. Inside the egg was the first creature named Pangu, and he grew and grew there for thousands of years until he was so big he broke the egg! All of the light parts flew up and formed the sky, and the heavier parts fell down and became the earth. Pangu pushed and pushed to keep them apart, until finally he was so weak that he died! His eyes became the sun and moon; his breath became the clouds and wind; his limbs formed the mountains and valleys; his blood formed the rivers and seas; his hair became the plants and trees, and the parasites on his body became all the animals and humans!

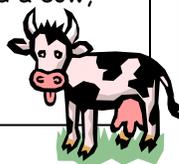


There are many different creation stories told among the Native American tribes. The **Choctaw** tell that in the beginning there was a great mound from which the Creator formed the first people who crawled through a long dark cave into the daylight, becoming the Choctaw people.



The creation story of the Eskimo people, or **Inuit**, tells that at the beginning of the world there were giants who lived on the land. Two of them had a baby girl called Sedna, who grew and grew until she was even bigger than her parents. The bigger she got, the more plants she ate, and also the weaker the sun became. Finally there were no plants left and she began to try to eat her parents! This was too much, so they put her into the canoe, paddled out to the middle of the ocean and dumped her into the icy water! But soon after, the canoe began to be shaken as Sedna's two giant hands came out of the water! There was nothing the giant parents could do but cut off Sedna's fingers to release the canoe. Sedna sank to the bottom of the ocean, but her fingers turned into seals, whales, walruses and all kinds of sea creatures.

A famous Norse creation story from **Scandinavia** says in the beginning there was nothing but ice in the north and fire in the south. Between them was a big gap where a few pieces of ice met a few sparks of fire. The ice melted and formed a giant, Ymir, and a cow, whose milk fed Ymir. The cow fed by licking the ice and one day uncovered a man!



In **Korea** they say the son of the Supreme Being in the sky came to the Earth with people and animals who control rain, cloud, wind, and 360 different things on the Earth. A bear and a tiger wished to become humans, so they prayed to the Supreme Being, who gave them some herbs, and told them to live in a cave for 100 days. The bear was patient and did so, but the tiger gave up at the last minute. The bear became a girl and married the son of the Supreme Being. Their son, Dangun, established the kingdom of Korea.



In **Samoa** in the South Pacific, they say that the son of Tagaloa was Tuli, and he went down from the heavens in the shape of a bird to the surface of the ocean. But finding no place to rest, he returned and so his father threw down a stone, which became land. The son made this his home but found that he had to move from place to place to avoid becoming wet. So Tagaloa, by means of a fish-hook, raised the rock higher. Grass and flowers grew on it but there was no man living on it. Tuli's father told him to go and pull up a flower, which he did; and as it rotted it produced two grubs. These were then shaped into the forms of men. Both were males but one died; he was then changed to a female and brought back to life so they became man and wife.



In **India**, the Hindu creation story tells of a dark ocean on which floated a giant cobra. Asleep within its coils lay the Lord Vishnu. A deep humming sound began - Om. It grew and spread, filling the emptiness with energy. The night had ended and as dawn broke Vishnu awoke, and from his navel grew a magnificent lotus flower. In the middle of it sat Vishnu's servant, Brahma. Vishnu commanded him: 'Create the world.' Brahma split the lotus flower into three. One part he stretched into the heavens; another into the earth, and with the third part he created the skies. Brahma set to work. He created plants of all kinds, and to these he gave feeling. Next he made all the creatures and gave them senses of touch and smell, and power to see, hear and move.



There are many different **African** stories. One says that in the beginning there was only darkness, water, and the great god Bumba. He felt sick and vomited up the sun, moon and stars; next he threw up some animals including the lion, crocodile, turtle, and leopard; and then eventually some people. Another tells of 3 gods who made the earth and animals, and then a special creature called "Power". But Power went bad and so the gods destroyed the earth with thunder and lightning, and then formed a new layer of Earth. A single tree grew upon it and dropped its seeds that then grew to form more trees and even fish and animals!



## CREATION CONFUSION!

FROM THE CHOICES BELOW, CIRCLE THE WORDS THAT APPEAR IN THE BIBLICAL CREATION STORY:

TREE	GIANTS	EGG	DUST	NOAH	OM
LOTUS FLOWER	GARDEN	VOMIT	7 DAYS	ICE & FIRE	
CAVE	HUMMING SOUND	ADAM & EVE	POWER	GRUBS	
SEDNA	BEAR	GOD SPOKE	COW		

Many people around the world may be confused and uncertain about why we are here, and how the earth was created. But Jesus came to show us the Way, the Truth and the Life and through the Bible we CAN understand it all! Have a great month!  
Your friend, Shirley

Facts from various websites including <http://library.thinkquest.org/18757/creation.htm>

Answers: Chicken or egg? - Read Genesis 1:21,22 - the chicken! Creation Confusion Puzzle - tree; dust; garden; 7 days; Adam & Eve; God spoke.

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