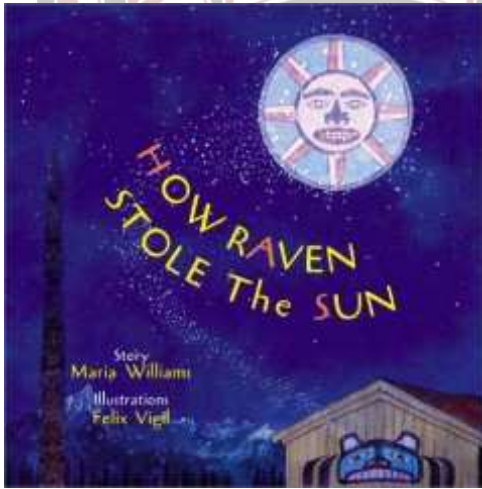


How Raven Stole the Sun

Also known as *Box of Daylight* or *How Raven Brought Light to the World*

Grade Level: K-5



A series of elementary level thematic units featuring Tlingit language, culture and history were developed in Juneau, Alaska in 2004-6. The project was funded by two grants from the U.S. Department of Education, awarded to the Sealaska Heritage Institute (Boosting Academic Achievement: Tlingit Language Immersion Program, grant #92-0081844) and the Juneau School District (Building on Excellence, grant #S356AD30001).

Lessons and units were written by a team of teachers and specialists led by Nancy Douglas, Elementary Cultural Curriculum Coordinator, Juneau School District. The team included Juneau teachers Kitty Eddy, Shgen George, Kathy Nielson, Hans Chester and Rocky Eddy, and SHI language team members Linda Belarde, Yarrow Vaara, David Katzeek, John Marks, Mary Foletti, Rose Natkong and Jessica Chester. Curriculum consultants Julie Folta and Toni Mallott assisted and Annie Calkins edited the lessons and units.

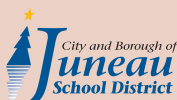
Lessons were field tested in Juneau classrooms in 2005-6.

All units are available online at sealaskaheritage.org.

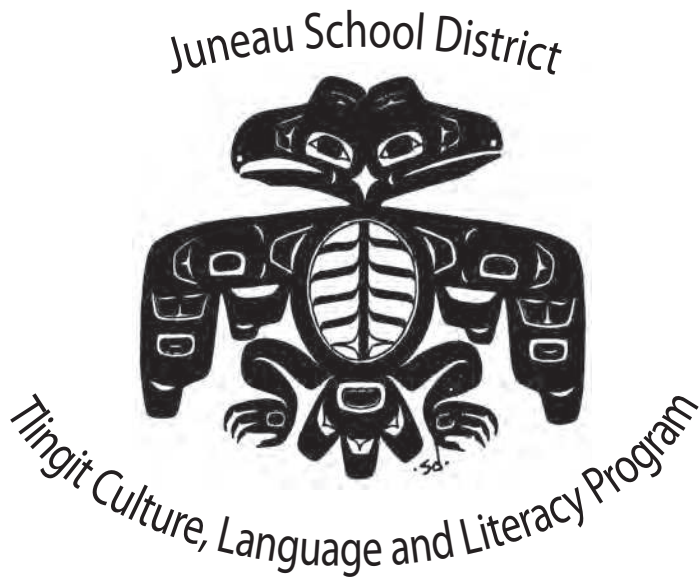
TEACHER RESOURCES



Sealaska Heritage Institute



The contents of this curriculum were developed under the Tlingit Language Immersion Program (2004) and Building on Excellence (2005) grants from the U.S. Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Dept. of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government



How Raven Brought Light to the People

An Adaptation for Readers' Theatre

Adapted from materials produced by the Juneau School District Indian Studies Program and from the radio play written by Tom Lowenstein for the Alaska Multimedia Education Program-Alaska State Museum

Readers' theatre - Lesson 7 - Optional activities
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams

How Raven Brought Light to the People

How Raven Brought Light to the People

6 Characters

Narrators 1, 2, 3 & 4

Raven (as bird)

Raven (as child)

Daughter

Grandfather

Narrator 1

Way, way back at the beginning of time, it was dark. There was no sun, no moon and no stars. People lived in total darkness except for the light from their campfires.

Narrator 2

Raven was a beautiful white bird who flew over the darkness in Tlingit country. He flew over the water and over the woods and hills; his bright eyes gleaming in the dark and his wings brushing through the clouds.

Narrator 3

Somewhere near the head of the Nass River lived a rich old man and his daughter. They kept a secret in their house; they held the sun, moon and stars in boxes.

Narrator 4

Raven knew they kept the light and he decided to trick the old man of the Nass and get the light that the whole world needed.

Raven (bird)

I'll make myself into a tiny pine needle and when the girl comes to drink at the river, I'll drop into her water basket . When she swallows me, I'll settle inside her and grow into her child.

- Daughter What lovely cool water. (cough) Oh, I must have swallowed something. (cough, cough) Well, it is gone now.
- Narrator 1 Raven settled into the girl and over the months grew into a baby boy.
- Narrator 2 After Raven was born as a baby boy, the daughter and her father loved him very much but they could not make him happy. He cried all the time.
- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Daughter
(singing a
lullaby and
rocking) Oh wei, natá déi yée
Oh wei, natá déi yée
Oh wei, natá déi yée
Oh wei, natá déi yée
- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Daughter Oh how that child cries! How he roars! Never a moment of peace, never a minute of rest. Night after night he crawls around bellowing like a little animal. What a racket! What a noise!
- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!

- Daughter Well, here comes my father. Maybe he can sooth the child. Maybe he will understand what the child wants. Maybe he will be able to give him what he wants.
- Grandfather My daughter. I am here. I am home.
- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Grandfather What is this noise I hear? My grandchild is screaming and bellowing and crawling over to our boxes. My daughter, let him have his way a little. Let him play as he wants.
- Narrator 2 Raven crawls over to the boxes and tries to play with them.
- Narrator 3 Grandfather gives the child the box of stars and he begins to play with it.
- Grandfather There. He is happy and isn't crying.
- Narrator 4 When grandfather isn't looking, Raven-child opens the box of stars. Stars fly up and out the smokehole and into the sky!
- Grandfather Ahh! What have you done? But now you seem happy. I guess it's okay.
- Narrator 1 And the Raven-child was happy for a while and so grandfather was happy too.

- Narrator 2 But eventually the child began to cry again. He cried and cried and cried and pointed at the box containing the moon.
- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Grandfather My grandchild, I remember what happened with the box of stars. But I can not stand to see you crying and so I will give you the box you want.
- Narrator 3 Once again, Raven-child stops crying and is happy. So grandfather is happy too.
- Narrator 4 But as soon as grandfather turns away, Raven-child opens the box. Out flies moon, out the smokehole and up into the sky!
- Narrator 1 Now Raven is growing tired of being a baby. He misses flying through the air and he misses his beautiful feathers.
- Narrator 2 But there is one more box. Raven wants to see what is in the last box and so he begins to cry again.
- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Narrator 3 Of course, grandfather remembers what happened to the stars and moon. He does not want to give the last box to his grandchild.

- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Narrator 4 Raven cries for days and days.
- Raven (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Narrator 1 Finally when grandfather can not stand it any longer, he hands his grandchild the last box; the box containing the sun.
- Narrator 2 This time grandfather watches very carefully. But Raven is very cunning, playing with the box happily but waiting for the moment when grandfather turns away.
- Narrator 3 As soon as grandfather turns, Raven sees his chance and opens the box. Out flies the sun. Out, out, out the smokehole and into the sky. With the sun in the sky, all the daylight comes into the people's lives.
- Narrator 4 With the sun in the sky, Raven is satisfied and begins to change back into his normal self.
- Narrator 1 Grandfather is furious! He knows he has been tricked and quickly closes the door to the house trapping Raven inside.
- Narrator 2 Raven flies around the house, trying to find a way out. Finally he flies up toward the smokehole.

- Narrator 3 But as he flies through the smokehole and up into the beautiful daylight, his feathers become coated with soot.
- Narrator 4 Soon every feather, his claws and even his beak are a beautiful shiny black. This is how Raven came to be black.
- All narrators And this is how Raven brought daylight to the people.

Tlingit words used in this theater

natá déi yée go to sleep

Juneau School District



Tlingit Culture, Language and Literacy Program

How Yéil Brought Light to the Lingít

An Adaptation for Readers' Theatre

Adapted from materials produced by the Juneau School District Indian Studies Program and from the radio play written by Tom Lowenstein for the Alaska Multimedia Education Program-Alaska State Museum

Readers' theatre - Lesson 7 - Optional activities
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams

How Yéil Brought Light to the Lingít

How Yéil Brought Light to the Lingít

6 Characters

Narrators 1, 2, 3 & 4 Yéil (as bird)

Yéil (as child) Séé Léelk'w

Narrator 1 Way, way back at the beginning of time, it was dark. There was no gagaan, no dís and no kutx ayanahá. Lingít lived in total darkness except for the light from their campfires.

Narrator 2 Yéil was a beautiful white bird who flew over the darkness in Tlingit country. He flew over the water and over the woods and hills; his bright eyes gleaming in the dark and his wings brushing through the clouds.

Narrator 3 Somewhere near the head of the Nass River lived a rich old man and his séé. They kept a secret in their house; they held gagaan, dís and kutx ayanahá in boxes.

Narrator 4 Yéil knew they kept the light and he decided to trick the old man of the Nass and get the light that the whole world needed.

Yéil (bird) I'll make myself into a tiny pine needle and when the girl comes to drink at the river, I'll drop into her water basket . When she swallows me, I'll settle inside her and grow into her child.

- Sée What lovely cool water. (cough) Oh, I must have swallowed something. (cough, cough) Well, it is gone now.
- Narrator 1 Yéil settled into the girl and over the months grew into a baby boy.
- Narrator 2 After Yéil was born as a baby boy, the sée and her father loved him very much but they could not make him happy. He cried all the time.
- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Sée
(singing a lullaby and rocking) Oh wei, natá déi yée
Oh wei, natá déi yée
Oh wei, natá déi yée
Oh wei, natá déi yée
- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Sée Oh how that child cries! How he roars! Never a moment of peace, never a minute of rest. Night after night he crawls around bellowing like a little animal. What a racket! What a noise!
- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!

- Sée Well, here comes ax éesh. Maybe he can sooth the child. Maybe he will understand what the child wants. Maybe he will be able to give him what he wants.
- Léelk'w Ax sée. I am here. I am home.
- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Léelk'w What is this noise I hear? Ax dachxán is screaming and bellowing and crawling over to our boxes. Ax sée, let him have his way a little. Let him play as he wants.
- Narrator 2 Yéil crawls over to the boxes and tries to play with them.
- Narrator 3 Léelk'w gives the child the box of kutx ayanahá and he begins to play with it.
- Léelk'w There. He is happy and is not crying.
- Narrator 4 When léelk'w is not looking, Yéil-child opens the box of kutx ayanahá. Kutx ayanahá fly up and out the smokehole and into the sky!
- Léelk'w Ahh! What have you done? But now you seem happy. I guess it's okay.
- Narrator 1 And the Yéil-child was happy for a while and so léelk'w was happy too.

- Narrator 2 But eventually the child began to cry again. He cried and cried and cried and pointed at the box containing dís.
- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Léelk'w Ax dachxán, I remember what happened with the box of kutx ayanahá. But I can not stand to see you crying and so I will give you the box you want.
- Narrator 3 Once again, Yéil-child stops crying and is happy. So léelk'w is happy too.
- Narrator 4 But as soon as léelk'w turns away, Yéil-child opens the box. Out flies dís, out the smokehole and up into the sky!
- Narrator 1 Now Yéil is growing tired of being a baby. He misses flying through the air and he misses his beautiful feathers.
- Narrator 2 But there is one more box. Yéil wants to see what is in the last box and so he begins to cry again.
- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Narrator 3 Of course, léelk'w remembers what happened to kutx ayanahá and dís. He does not want to give the last box to du dachxán.

- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Narrator 4 Yéil cries for days and days.
- Yéil (child) Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah! Wah, wah, wah!
- Narrator 1 Finally when léelk'w can not stand it any longer, he hands du dachxán the last box; the box containing the gagaan.
- Narrator 2 This time léelk'w watches very carefully. But Yéil is very cunning, playing with the box happily but waiting for the moment when léelk'w turns away.
- Narrator 3 As soon as léelk'w turns, Yéil sees his chance and opens the box. Out flies gagaan. Out, out, out the smokehole and into the sky. With gagaan in the sky, all the daylight comes into the Lingít lives.
- Narrator 4 With gagaan in the sky, Yéil is satisfied and begins to change back into his normal self.
- Narrator 1 Léelk'w is furious! He knows he has been tricked and quickly closes the door to the house, trapping Yéil inside.
- Narrator 2 Yéil flies around the house, trying to find a way out. Finally he flies up toward the smokehole.

- Narrator 3 But as he flies through the smokehole and up into the beautiful daylight, his feathers become coated with soot.
- Narrator 4 Soon every feather, his claws and even his beak are a beautiful shiny black. This is how Yéil came to be black.
- All narrators And this is how Yéil brought daylight to the Lingít.

Tlingit words used in this theater

Lingít	People
ax éesh	my father
ax dachxán	my grandchild
ax sée	my daughter
du dachxán	his grandchild
léelk'w	grandfather

Yéil	Raven
dís	moon
gagaan	sun
kutx ayanahá	star

natá déi yée	go to sleep
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Juneau School District



Tlingit Culture, Language and Literacy Program

How Raven Stole the Sun

Calendar Sun and Moon icons - Lesson 7 - Optional activities
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams

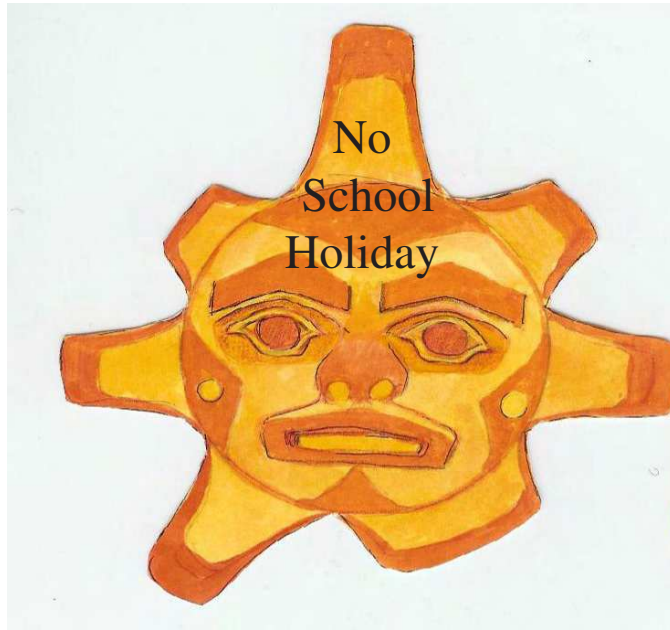
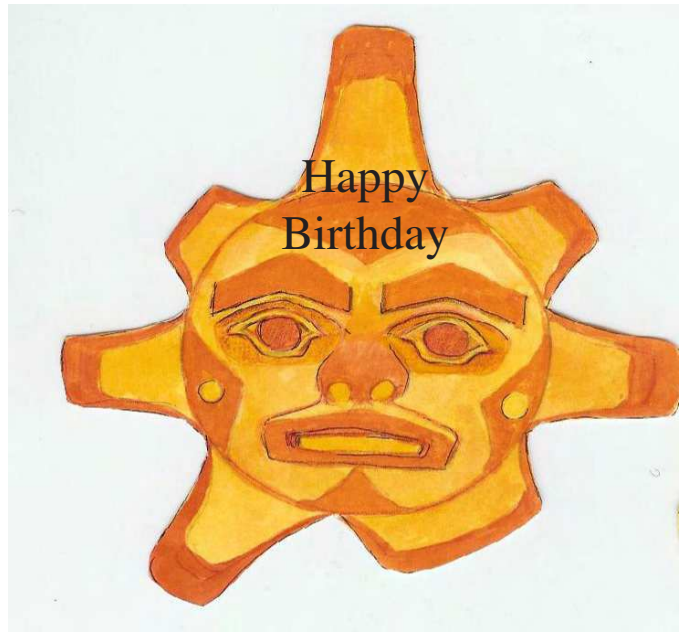












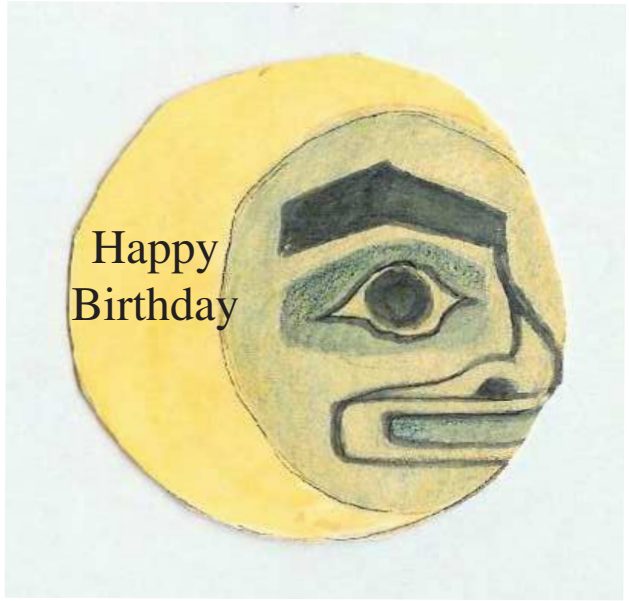












Juneau School District



Tlingit Culture, Language and Literacy Program

How Raven Stole the Sun

Tlingit Language Wall Cards - Lesson 7 - Optional activities
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams



gagaan



dis



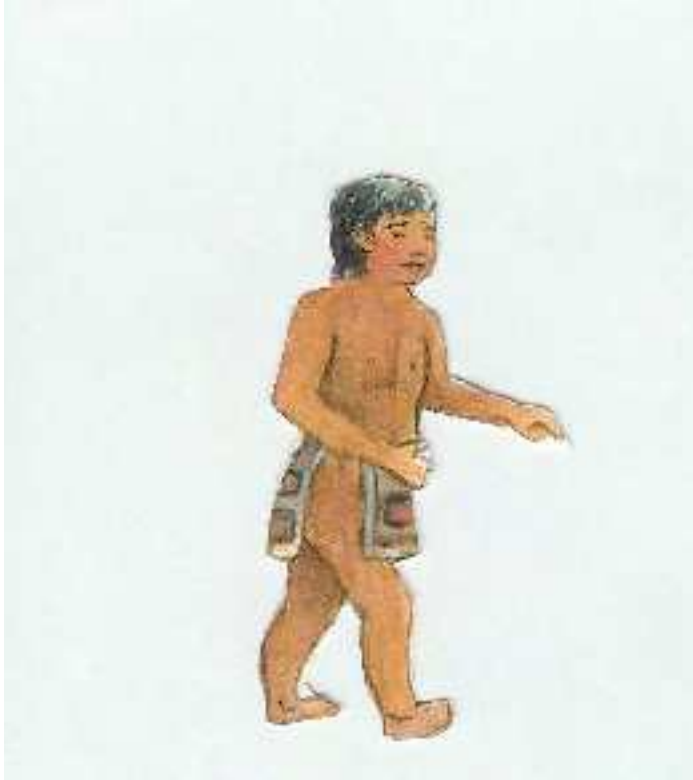
kutx ayanahá



yéil



léelk'w



dachxán



kook

Juneau School District



Tlingit Culture, Language and Literacy Program

Southeast Traditional Values Poster

Tlingit Values Discussion - Lesson 7- Optional activities
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams



SOUTHEAST TRADITIONAL TRIBAL VALUES

“OUR WAY OF LIFE”

- Discipline and Obedience to the Traditions of our Ancestors
- Respect for Self, Elders and Others
- Respect for Nature and Property
- Patience
- Pride in Family, Clan and Traditions is found in Love, Loyalty and Generosity
- Be Strong in Mind, Body and Spirit
- Humor
- Hold Each Other Up
- Listen Well and with Respect
- Speak with Care
- We are Stewards of the Air, Land and Sea
- Reverence for Our Creator
- Live in Peace and Harmony
- Be Strong and Have Courage

Developed, Adapted, and Approved at the 2004 Elders Forum on Traditional Values

Sponsored by Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Circle of Care, SAMHSA Substance Abuse Planning Project, Elderly Nutrition Program, Johnson O'Malley Program and Alaska Rural Systemic Initiative, Alaska Association of School Boards

Juneau School District



Tlingit Culture, Language and Literacy Program

How Raven Stole the Sun

Materials for sequencing and retelling- version 1 (Lesson 4)
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams

Finally Raven saw the small smokehole in the ceiling. He flew up to it and out, but as he did, the black soot coated his feathers.

The stars, moon and sun were kept in large, beautifully carved boxes in a chief's house.

As the Chief's daughter began to scoop up water with her cup, Raven turned himself into a small pine needle. Raven drifted into her cup. Several months later she gave birth to a beautiful baby boy.

The Chief remembered what had happened to the box of stars, but he could not stand to see his grandson cry, so he gave him the box with the moon in it.

A long time ago, Raven, or Yeíl, was pure white from the tips of his claws to the ends of his wings. This was so long ago that there were no stars, no moon and no sun in the sky. The world was dark.

Raven smiled and played with the box. When the Chief looked away, he opened the lid. The moon flew out and into the sky!

One day the Chief noticed the baby was pointing to the box with the stars in it. He cried and cried for it.

This is how the light came to the people and this is how Raven came to be black.

Raven was so happy that the stars, moon and sun were in the sky that he changed back into a raven. When the Chief saw this he was very angry. He had been tricked!

The Chief got the box of stars down and Raven smiled as he played with it. When the Chief was not looking, Raven opened it. The stars flew up and into the sky.

The Chief closed the door to the house and trapped Raven inside. He flew around and around trying to get out.

After he flew out of the smokehole, Raven was surprised to see that he was black! From the tips of his claws to the ends of his wings, every feather was black.

Raven cried and cried for days. The Chief remembered what had happened to the stars and the moon, but he could not stand to see his grandson crying. So he handed him the box with the sun in it.

Raven opened the lid and freed the sun. The sun flew out and up into the sky and daylight came into the Tlingit's lives.

Raven wanted to take the boxes of light from the Chief, but he was always caught before he could get them.

Juneau School District



Tlingit Culture, Language and Literacy Program

How Raven Stole the Sun

Materials for sequencing and retelling- version 2 (Lesson 4)
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams

The pine needle was really
Raven and the chief's daughter
soon had a baby boy. She didn't
know the baby boy was really
Raven.

A long time ago, there were no
stars, moon or sun in the sky.

Now the stars, the moon and
the sun were in the sky and
people had light.

Raven was a pure white bird.
He wanted to get the light for
the people.

The boy cried and cried. So grandfather gave the baby boy the box with moon in it. The boy opened the box and the moon flew out.

The baby boy turned back into Raven. He flew out the smoke-hole and became all black.

The boy cried and cried for days and days. Grandfather gave the boy the last box. It held the sun. The boy opened the box and the sun flew out.

First, grandfather gave the baby boy the box with stars in it. The boy opened the box and the stars flew out.

Raven wanted the stars and the moon and the sun. He had an idea. He turned into a pine needle and fell into the water. The chief's daughter drank him!

There was a chief who had the stars, the moon and the sun in boxes. But he didn't want to share.

So this is how the light came to
the people and this is how
Raven came to be black.

The baby boy cried all the time.
He wanted the boxes.

Juneau School District



Tlingit Culture, Language and Literacy Program

How Raven Stole the Sun

Materials for sequencing and retelling (Lesson 4)
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams

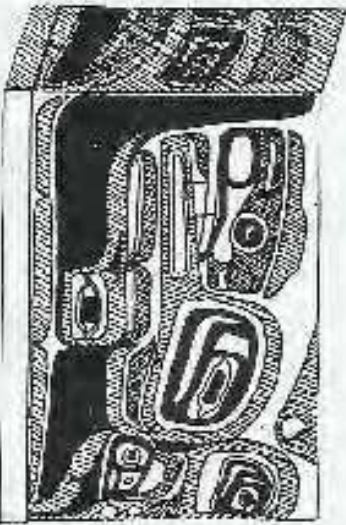
The Box of Daylight

by _____

date _____



Stars



Moon



Sun



Raven

CAW!
CAW!
CAW!
CAW!

Name _____

The pictures are from *How Raven Stole the Sun*. They are in the right order. Write the part of the story that goes with each picture.







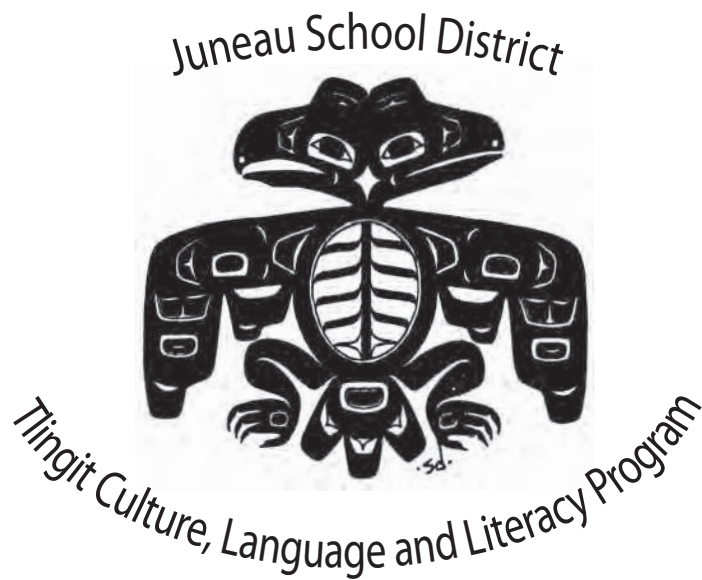












How Raven Stole the Sun

Character figures for retelling activities
Use with the book *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams

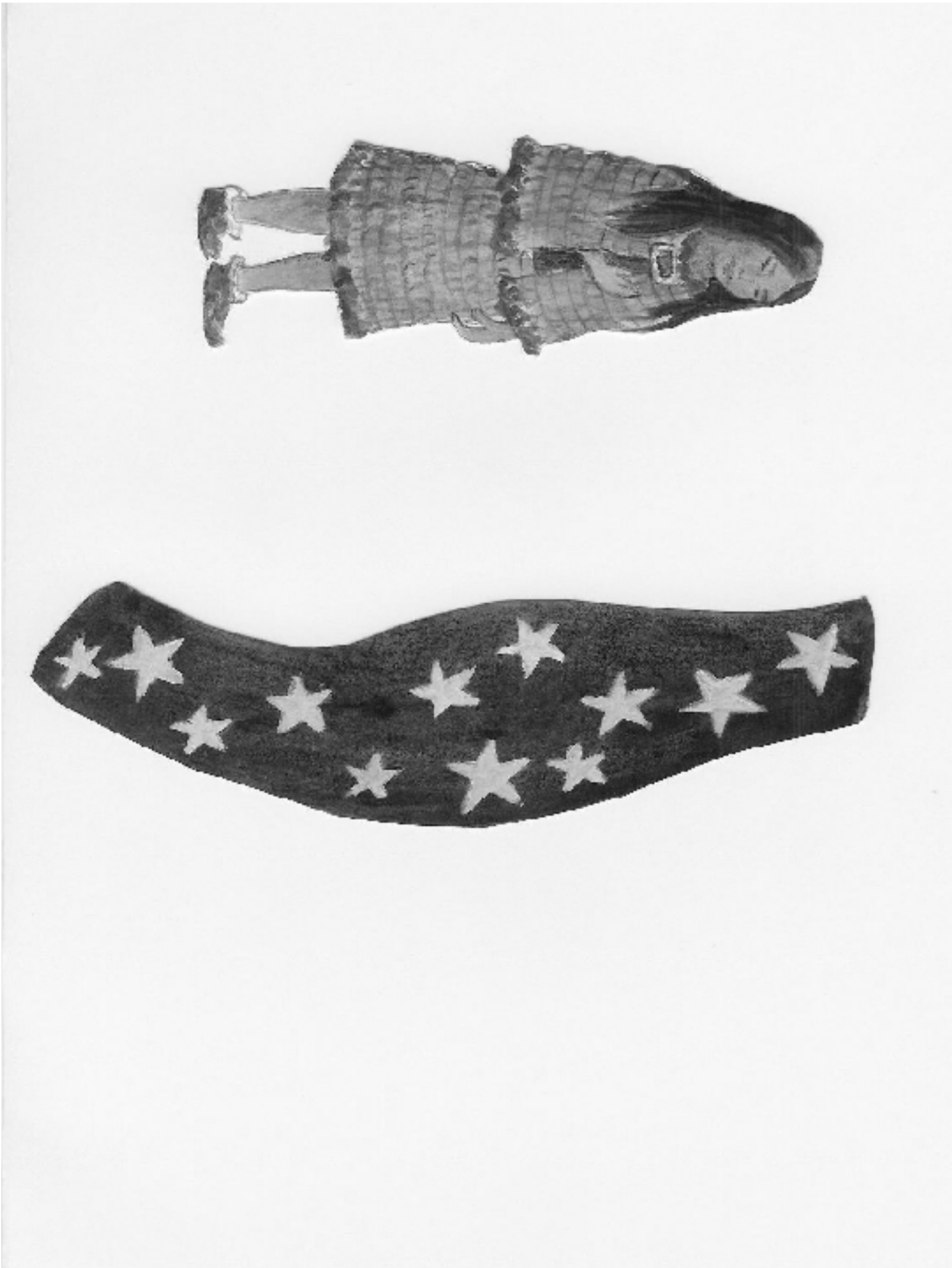






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