

Stories My Ancestors Told

A planetarium program designed for grades 3 and up.

Learning objectives for each student

- 1 Describe two animals used by Michigan Native Americans in sky legends.
- 2 Describe the roles these animals played in mythology.

Pre-visit activities

- 1 Have the students read about mythology.
- 2 Have the students discuss the role of mythology in a culture. Ask them to identify some mythologies that we still at least know of.
- 3 Describe how mythologies come about and how we move from mythology to real understanding of the way the world works. What does this say about the growth of a culture?

Vocabulary

These words or terms are used in "Sky Legends of the Three Fires". Some may be new to your students.

mythology

story

Native

medicine

sacred

powerful

circle

planetarium

wigwam

swamp

program summary

"Sky Legends of the Three Fires." The "Three Fires" are the Ojibwa, Odawa, and Potawatomi tribes who collectively are the Anishinabek, or First People. Narrated by Larry Plamondon, Grand River Odawa,

with artwork and video footage provided by a Michigan Native family. "Sky Legends of the Three Fires" was produced by the Universe Theater and Planetarium at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum