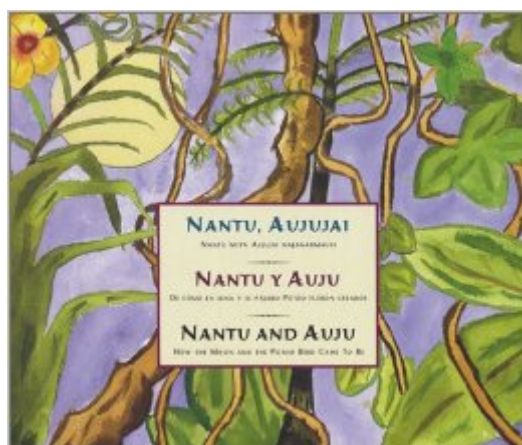


The book was found

Nantu And Aju (Multilingual Edition)



Synopsis

"Nantu and Aju, How The Moon and Potoo Bird Came To Be" is a creation myth from the Achuar people of the rainforest. The Achuar are an indigenous culture that care for two millions acres of pristine rainforest in southern Ecuador. The Achuar are a dream culture. They wake up early each morning to tell their dreams to their community. The elders interpret the web of all their dreams together, and based on that interpretation, they make important decisions about their daily life. After dream sharing, the elders tell myths to the children. The original objective for the book was to support the passing of this myth from one generation to the next. As the project evolved, it was discovered that the book would also become an important teaching tool for Achuar kids to learn how to read and write in their own language, which would help perpetuate the use of their language. Currently, they are being taught in Spanish, only because their language has never been written down until now. The myth is written in Achuar, Spanish, and English. and will given to the Achuar in all 56 of their communities. At the end of the book there is an illustrated section that portrays many aspects of the Achuar culture. Schools in the U.S. and other countries will be using this section, and the book as a whole, to teach kids about nature, the rainforest, the Achuar culture, and the importance of honesty and of sharing – that there is enough for everyone. Alejandro Taish Mayaprua, an Achuar leader, wrote down his version of the myth in Achuar and Spanish. Achuar students, 10-20 years old, from a school in the rainforest created all of the illustrations in the book using, for the first time, modern world watercolor paints, pencils and pastels. The spirit of the kids, the rainforest, and the myth is captured in these magical illustrations. All of the proceeds from the book will go back into the Achuar communities in the form of educational workshops.

Book Information

Hardcover: 44 pages

Publisher: Arutam Press; Mul edition (March 2004)

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ISBN-10: 0974547700

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.5 x 10.5 inches

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #114,610 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Latin American #143 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy

Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural #193 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

Nantu and Ajuju: How the Moon and the Potoo Bird Came to Be is a most beautiful children's book! It is a feast for the eyes artistically. I understand that all the art was done by Achuar children deep in the Ecuadorian rainforest. It's a beautiful Achuar teaching story that remains an oral tradition. Because of its cultural significance, it was translated into English with utmost care. Being tri-lingual, it inspires a curiosity about language and culture to children of all ages. It's a book I love to revisit and read at least once a year! Yes... my inner child loves this book!!! If you want to learn more, you can probably Google Elizabeth Murray and Achuar. A GREAT GIFT BOOK!!!!

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