

Wesakechak Creation Story

As told by Elder Rita Marten

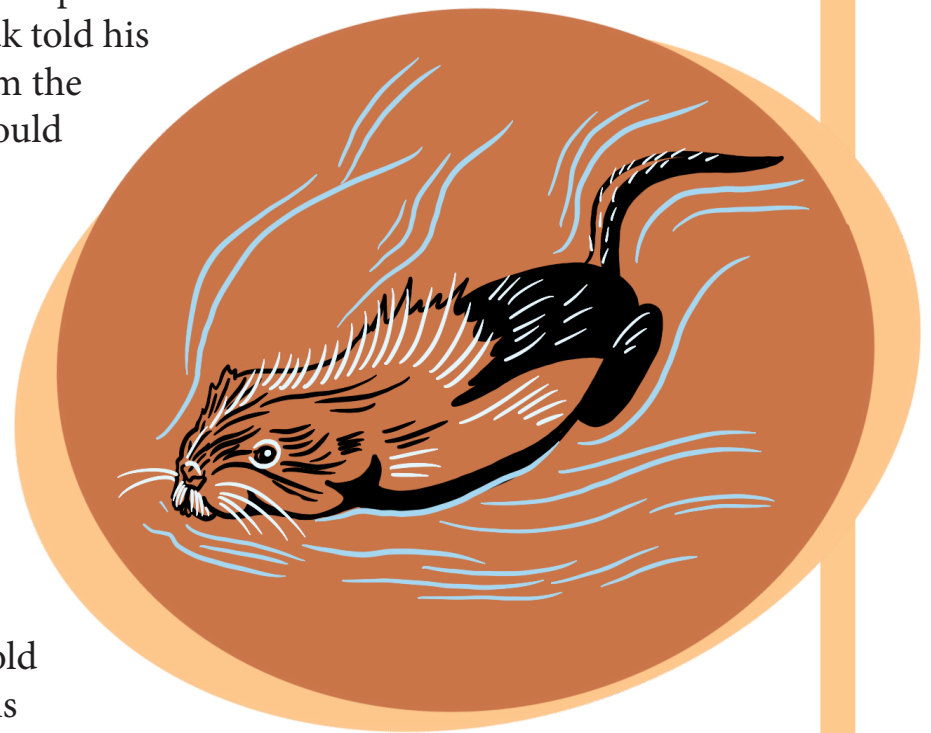
This is a Creation myth about Wesakechak and how he created the world with the help of his siblings that live on land and water.

Wesakechak took the form of a man. He is known for his powers, and as a trickster who loved to tease his little siblings. Every living species on this planet was his little sibling. He spoke to them all, and they understood and spoke to him as well.



Wesakechak was on a raft with three of his little siblings the Otter, the Beaver and the Muskrat when everything was covered in water during the flood. Wesakechak consoled his little siblings by telling them he would create the world. Wesakechak knew that he would need help from his little brothers. Wesakechak told his siblings he needed dirt from the bottom of the ocean so he could create the world. Wesakechak

told them they must take turns diving to the bottom of the ocean until one of them is successful in finding some dirt.



Wesakechak told the Otter to dive to the bottom of the ocean and try to find some dirt. The Otter dove to the bottom of the ocean and came back to the raft but he did not find dirt for Wesakechak. Wesakechak told little brother Beaver it was his



turn to dive to the bottom of the ocean and bring back some dirt. Little brother Beaver came back up to the raft but was not successful in finding the dirt.

Wesakechak told little brother Muskrat to see if he could find the dirt. Muskrat went diving and was gone for a very long time. Finally, he came back up to the raft barely alive. The siblings carried him onto the raft. Wesakechak immediately brought him back to life.

Wesakechak found dirt from his little brother Muskrat's hands, took it, and rolled it into a ball. Holding the ball of dirt, he blew on it and created the world. Wesakechak was pleased and said, "the people will pass on this creation story from generation to generation."

Elder's Teachings

This story teaches about the values of love, kindness, and happiness. The oldest sibling protected and took good care of his younger siblings. The siblings modelled working together as a family, listening, and following instructions. Land and water are very important to Indigenous peoples.

