

Story Guide

HOW RAVEN FREED THE STARS, MOON AND SUN BY Gene Tagaban

Watch the video of storyteller Gene Tagaban [here](#).

Run time is 0 - 19:10.

Now, enjoy exploring the story with the activities outlined below.



explore it

- Gene Tagaban tells a Native American creation story about how the stars, moon, sun, animals and people came to be. Learn a creation story from your tradition and share it with a friend.
- Gene is multicultural. He is Cherokee, Tlingit and Filipino. Gene comes from an island town called Hoonah in Alaska where the Tlingit people live. Find Hoonah on a [map](#). On what island can it be found? Discover three interesting things about [Hoonah](#) and the [Tlingit](#) people.



think it

- Name some of the nouns and adjectives that Gene uses to introduce you to Raven.
- How does Raven use the beautiful daughter to become a human child?
- How does the child get the grandfather to share his special boxes? Name the four treasures that are in the boxes.
- What happens when the child turns back into Raven and meets the Spirits of the Night? How do the Spirits of the Night change after Raven opens the last box? Name what each one becomes.



create it

- Gene's uncle thinks it is important to introduce yourself to all living things. Use old magazines, scraps of paper, or natural objects to create a collage that will introduce yourself to someone letting them know about your home, dress, what you like to eat, your favorite games, etc. Share the collage with someone you don't know very well.
- Gene plays a Tlingit hand drum during the story. Create a percussion instrument using your hands, feet, sticks, boxes, etc. Use it to accompany baby cries, bird calls or coyote howls.



tell it

- Make up a creation story to tell how the world was formed. Choose an animal to be a central character in the story. Tell it to someone using the percussion instrument you made in the Create It section.
- Raven has to be very patient to get his way in the story. Journal about a time when patience helped you accomplish something important.
- How old was Gene when his grandmother started telling him stories? Recall a story you were told by a family member and share it with someone special.