

Pourquoi Tales: Grade 6 Narrative Writing

Some books to check in Runnymede School Library:

How we got the twelve months, 398.2 HOW
collected by Irene Noah, translated by Philip Goodwin

How the Loon lost her voice 398.2 CAM
Anne Cameron

Nanabosho How the turtle got its shell 398.2 MAC
Joe McLellan

Raven and Snipe 398.2 CAM
Anne Cameron

The Boy Who Lived With the Bears and other Iroquois stories 398.2 BRU
told by Joseph Bruchac

Anansi Finds a fool 398.2 AAR
Verna Aardema

How Music Came to the World 398.2 OBE
retold by Hal Ober

The Loon's Necklace -- I have 2 copies of my own.

Keepers of the Earth - Joseph Bruchac at the TPL.

Pourquoi Tales: Grade 6 Narrative Writing

How We Got the Twelve Months - Irene Noah.

Long ago before man came, the animals spoke to one another. One time the animals got together for a meeting because they wanted months for the year. They asked "How many months shall we have for each year." All kinds of animals were there, but very few spoke.

The beaver said "Let's count the sections of my tail." The rest of the animals didn't agree, because the beaver had too many sections on his tail.

Then the moose spoke and said "Let's count my antler points and that's how many months we should have to a year." The animals still didn't agree. There were too many points on the antler.

The porcupine spoke and said "I know, we'll count my quills and that's how many months we'll have to a year." The animals didn't agree for sure because there would be too many months to a year.

And so it went on and on.

Finally the frog said "How come nobody asked me what I think?" They all replied, "How many months should we have?" The frog held out its' toes and said "There are three toes to each leg and I have four legs." They counted the number of toes and it came to twelve. The animals all agreed and cheered for the frog.

This is how we got the twelve months.

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Name: _____

Date: _____

Suggested Time: 3 hours to complete planning and good copy after we read stories.

Suggested Length: Rough Draft paper provided is three pages long as shown in the package.

- Complete your reading of at least two additional pourquoi tales
- Create a story planner using the organizer in this package
- Independently write your tale, following your plan on the sheets provided
- Edit your rough draft with a dictionary thesaurus and one peer editor
- Remember to include all the characteristics of a pourquoi tale as well as regular narrative characteristics.

Characteristics of Pourquoi Tales:

- ❖ Explains something in nature
- ❖ At the beginning of the tale, something is the opposite of the way we know it to be
- ❖ It is fiction
- ❖ The elements of a story are evident: the setting, the characters, a problem, a solution (sometimes)
- ❖ Characters are usually animals who act like humans
- ❖ There is dialogue
- ❖ The main character may be a trickster
- ❖ May contain magic
- ❖ May have Mother Earth as one of the characters
- ❖ Contains colourful language

Pourquoi Tale Planning Form

A pourquoi tale explains why or how something in nature came to be.

At the beginning of my story:

A working title:	
WHERE/WHEN (the setting)	WHO (the main characters)

The problem or conflict:

In the middle of my story:

1 st major event	2 nd major event	3 rd major event	4 th major event

At the end of my story :

The solution:
