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# CREATION

## *Project 2—Creation Myths*

*Read through the article below then draw a picture of a scene from one of the stories.*

The first verse of the Bible says, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Yet not everyone in the world believes the Bible. Some believe that the description of how everything was made that is found in the Bible is a myth. A myth is a made-up story that explains a belief or natural phenomenon. There are myths all over the world, and though they aren’t true like the Bible is, sometimes they have at their root a true idea. It is common to hear from missionaries around the world that isolated tribes often have myths which are similar to the Biblical account of creation. We should not be surprised to hear this, since the Bible says only Noah and his family lived through the Flood—so all their children are the people who have filled the earth. They all tell the same “family history,” even if it gets a bit muddled, like it does when you play the game “whisper down the lane.”

For example, Indians in southern California tell of Bald Eagle, the chief of the animals, making man of clay and women of a feather while the man was sleeping. The Pima Indians of southern Arizona believe, Earth Maker mixed clay and sweat to make a man and a woman, then breathed life into them. Don’t these stories sound familiar?

In Egypt several versions of a creation myth emerged out of their long history. One says that there was a time when nothing had existed, when “the sky had not yet come into being, the earth had not yet come into being, the gods had not yet been born, and death had not yet come into being.” Yet, there was the swirling watery chaos from which arose the god Atum, and he created the gods Shu and Tefnut who then gave birth to Geb (earth) and Nut (heaven), who gave birth to Osiris, Isis, Set and Nephthys. People were created from Atum’s tears.

