

# ORIGIN STORIES

**Directions:** Use this chart to highlight the differences - and any similarities - between the origin stories you read.

	Greek	Iroquois	Judeo - Christian	Mayan	Modern Scientific
Source of the world	Chaos within a void	First people lived beyond the sky. Chief's daughter falls through a hole in the sky.	God forms Heaven, Earth, light and dark	Makers in the sky and the sea	Big Bang
Originator of the world	Gaia, Eros, Erebus	Great turtle in an endless sheet of water	God	Plumed serpent	
How the Earth formed	Gaia births Uranus	Old lady toad spits out a mouthful of dirt on the back of the turtle	God made water, sky, ground, vegetation, creatures	Like a cloud unfolding	Left over matter dispersed during the formation of our sun
Age of the Earth					4.54 Billion years ago
First life forms	Titans	Swans, muskrat, beaver, toad, turtle	All living creatures	Deer, pumas, jaguars rattlesnakes	One-celled organisms
How humans formed	Prometheus / Athena made man. Zeus made first woman.	Dirt grows to form the world island supporting the daughter	Created in Gods image	Third attempt, derived from corn	Evolution, adaptation over about 100,000 years
Relationship between humans and animals / plants	All subservient to the gods	Respectful of the nature which supports humanity	Rule over nature	Hunt, gather praise the gods	Dominate and jeopardize the planet's stability

