

Remember
to annotate
as you read.

Rabbit and Coyote

Rabbit and Coyote are familiar characters in the trickster tales of different cultures. In some versions, clever Rabbit escapes Coyote's plans to make a meal of him. In others, Rabbit simply enjoys outwitting Coyote and making him look foolish. This adaptation shows how gullible Coyote can be when it comes to Rabbit's tricks.

Notes

- 1 This tale tells the story of Rabbit and Coyote. Rabbit came upon a big rock and once there, he decided to deceive, or trick, Coyote, for Rabbit knew that foolish Coyote would fall for his trick. Sure enough, soon Coyote came by and Rabbit leaned against the big rock.
- 2 "What are you doing, brother?" Coyote asked Rabbit.
- 3 Rabbit chuckled and then said in a serious voice, "Come here quickly, brother, for the sky is falling down on us. You must lean against the rock and then hold it up while I go search for a stick that will prop up the sky."

4 Coyote, of course, agreed and began holding up the rock with all his might, doing exactly what Rabbit had ordered him to do. Rabbit simply left Coyote holding the rock, and when Rabbit didn't return, Coyote shouted, "Come back, brother! The weight of the rock is making me tired." But Rabbit did not come back. He ignored Coyote's pleas.

5 Finally, Coyote gave up holding up the rock and muttered, "I'm giving up holding up this rock, even if the sky will fall on us." But when he ran away, he fell into a ravine. Rabbit never came back and poor Coyote was lost. After a while, however, he found Rabbit. And Rabbit was already planning another trick he could play on poor, foolish Coyote.

Notes

