

# Cosmogony Project

\*\*\*Please remind the students that some of these stories are parts of religions still practiced today and to remain respectful in how they present their information on their creation story.

Text	Country	Time Period	Culture	Details
Rig Veda	India	1700-1100 BC	Vedic Hinduism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Remind students that this is just one sect of Hinduism.</li> <li>- This is a difficult one for students to understand, so make sure to read up on it before helping students.</li> <li>- Vedic Chanting was declared a Unesco Living Cultural Heritage in 2008.</li> <li>- 3,500 years</li> <li>- 13 branches left of 1,000</li> <li>- Passed down and perfectly memorized in pitch, tone, phrasing, etc.</li> </ul>
Popol Vuh	the post-classical K'iche kingdom of Guatamala's western highlands.	Oral tradition, 1500s AD, recorded by Catholic monks and priests in the early Spanish conquest of Mesoamerica.	Mayan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "The Book of the Community."</li> <li>- Creation of man with corn is 100 pages after the wood effigies of man.</li> <li>- Happens after the 7 Macaw defeat.</li> <li>- Happens after the adventures, death, and resurrection of twin hero gods who defeat Xibalba and become the sun and the moon.</li> </ul>
Kojiki	Japan	712 AD	Japanese	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students will find parts of this story very weird, especially with the death of Izanami, the goddess. Make sure they focus on the questions and topics and not what they consider the weird stuff.</li> </ul>
Theogony of Hesiod	Greece	700 BC	Archaic Greek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The section students need starts and ends with the <b>stars</b>.</li> <li>- This is basically a list of where the gods came from and is less narrative, so students will need to answer the questions based on the connections between the gods and what that tells them.</li> </ul>

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Yoruba Creation Story	East Africa	Oral tradition, recorded by colonial scholars.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Southwestern Nigeria</li> <li>- Parts of Benin and Togo in East Africa (commonly known as Yorubaland).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Yoruba religion is the basis of many religions outside of East Africa such as <i>Santeria</i>, <i>Umbanda</i>, <i>Trinidad Orisha</i>, and <i>Candomble</i>.</li> <li>- It also has parallels with <i>Vodun</i> (what you probably know as voodoo) practiced by the Fon and Ewe peoples, and to the religion of the Edo people to the east.</li> </ul>
Ragni and Papa	New Zealand	Oral tradition, 1800s, recorded by British colonial scholars.	Maori	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This story is usually really straightforward for students to understand.</li> </ul>

**Resources:** [Crash Course Mythology #2 Creation from the Void](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4eVFgfQ2694) <https://youtu.be/4eVFgfQ2694>

[#3 Cosmic Sexy Time, Eggs, Seeds, and Water](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fHDliqLz9w) <https://youtu.be/7fHDliqLz9w>

[#5 Social Orders and Creation Stories](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBbTkzakiM8) <https://youtu.be/PBbTkzakiM8>

[#11 African Pantheons and the Orishas](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2se_zimj40) [https://youtu.be/J2se\\_zimj40](https://youtu.be/J2se_zimj40)