

## NEW WORDS:

roots  
homesick  
salmon  
kidnapped  
cedar  
boughs

## BLUE JAY - STAR CHILD

### Blue Jay - Star Child/Basket Woman

Developed by members of the Muckleshoot Planning Committee

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA: Coastal Region

STORY TYPE(S): Natural Phenomena/Indian Values

#### Summary:

Two sisters left for the Sky World to marry a white star and a red star. The younger sister had a star child and returned home. Her child was stolen and taken to the Underworld. Blue Jay was sent to find the baby who could be located by passing through a crack in the earth's surface. When Blue Jay found the baby, he had grown to be a man and could not return. Blue Jay had to return through the crack in the earth alone. Blue Jay's head, however, got caught in the crack, which reminds people of the age when the world changed.

#### Teacher Guided Activities:



1. Divide your class into three groups. Assign each group the task of doing their own mural of one of the worlds (the Sky World, Earth or the Underworld) mentioned in the story.

When the murals are complete, put them together to show the three layers mentioned in the story.



2. Discuss with your class natural changes which have taken place in the earth's surface. What natural event might have caused the earth to open and close as it did in the story?

What other natural forces operate to change the earth's surface besides earthquakes? (Glaciers, volcanoes, wind erosion, etc.)

Perhaps different groups could work on reports of volcanoes, earthquakes or glaciers. Drawings could be included in the reports.



3. In this story, Blue Jay had discovered that Dog Salmon had taken the baby. See if students can find out what Dog Salmon are. Have students draw a picture and write about what they have learned.

**Student Activity Card(s):**  
**See Filmstrip Making Activity Card (3A-3B).**

The techniques introduced on the Filmstrip Making Card may be used with many stories. Each Four Winds Group should choose a different story to make into a filmstrip. Cartoon strips may also be done in a similar manner.