

The Cañari Orígin Story

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Level 3



About the Story

The *Cañari Origin Story* was provided by Cañarejo Doctor Wilson Gonzáles, PRIMOK students, and books in the library of *Museo Pumapungo*.

Dr. Gonzáles is retired history teacher from Colegio San José de Calasanz de Cañar. He currently works as a lawyer and historian.

Museo Pumapungo is dedicated to preserving the art and cultures of the Indigenous peoples of Ecuador.



Long ago, there was a large **flood** in Cañar. The water was very **high**, and only two people **survived**.

The two people that **survived** were brothers. They **climbed** to the top of a mountain to **escape the flood**.



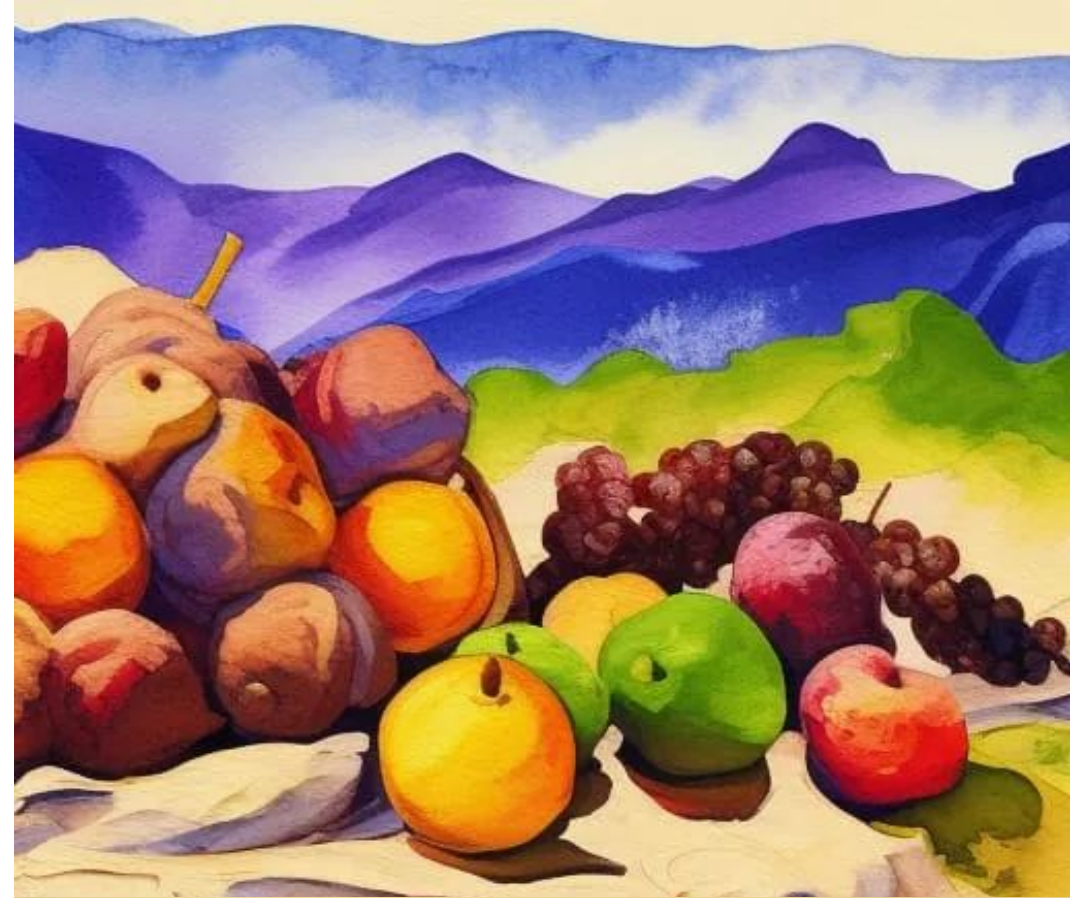
The brothers made a house on the mountain. The brothers were very hungry, so they searched for food.

The brothers found a cave while they were searching. Inside the cave, the brothers found food and drinks.

Macaw (<i>Guacamaya</i>)	Ave que tiene cola muy larga y plumas de muchos colores
Fly (<i>Volar</i>)	Moverse por el aire usando alas
Notice (<i>Notar</i>)	Darse cuenta
Bright (<i>Brillante</i>)	Algo que brilla
Feathers (<i>Plumas</i>)	Plumas que cubren el cuerpo de un ave
Marry (<i>Casar</i>)	Estar casado con alguien
Sacred (<i>Sagrado</i>)	Relacionado con la divinidad
Ceremony (<i>Ceremonia</i>)	Acción que se lleva a cabo de acuerdo a una costumbre

Vocabulary

Flood (<i>Diluvio</i>)	Lluvia violenta que provoca inundaciones
High (<i>Alto</i>)	Algo que tiene una altura superior
Survive (<i>Sobrevivir</i>)	Seguir vivo después de un momento peligroso
Climb (<i>Escalar</i>)	Subir a una gran altura
Escape (<i>Escapar</i>)	Salir de un lugar para protegerse
Make (<i>Hacer; Construir</i>)	Hacer una construcción de arquitectura
Search (<i>Buscar</i>)	Encontrar a una persona o una cosa
Find (<i>Encontrar</i>)	Localizar una cosa que no se busca
Cave (<i>Cueva</i>)	Cavidad abierta de forma natural
Take (<i>Tomar</i>)	Agarrar algo con la mano



The brothers **took** all of the food. They looked for other people, but they couldn't **find** anyone.



The brothers hid behind a tree and saw two **macaws flying** in the sky.

When the **macaws** stopped **flying**, the brothers **noticed** that they were women.

Comprehension Questions

1. Who **survived** the flood?
2. What was in the **cave**?
3. How many **macaws** did the brothers see?
4. How do women in Cañar honor **macaws** today?

Discussion Questions

1. Did you learn something new today?
2. What was something interesting you learned in this story?
3. Have you heard a different version of this story?



The **macaws** were very beautiful and their **feathers** were **bright** and colorful. The **macaws** brought more food and drinks for the brothers.

Today, the **macaw** is a **sacred** animal to the Cañaris. The **feathers** are used in traditional **ceremonies**. Many women wear colorful clothing to honor the **macaws**.





The two brothers **fell in love** with the two **macaws**. They wanted to say “Thank you” to the two **macaws**, but they **flew away quickly**.



The **macaws** returned and lived with the brothers.

After the **flood** ended, the brothers **married** the **macaws**, and they had many children.