PRIMOK

Cerro Narrío

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WPI

Level 3

About the Story

The *Cerro Narrío* story was provided by Lcdo. Antonio Quinde, an Indigenous community leader in Cañar, Ecuador.

He became the first president of *Ecuarunari* in 1972. His grandsons, Apu and Inti, also helped write this story.

Today, Don Antonio is a retired professor and often speaks to community members and researchers about Cañari culture and history.

Long ago, the Cañaris lived in the Andes Mountains of Ecuador. They were **farmers** and **brave warriors**. The Cañaris valued nature and **worshiped** the **moon**.

To honor the **moon**, they created a **hill**. They shaped the **hill** like a turtle **shell**, and it looked like a half-**moon**. This **hill** was **sacred**, and they called it *Cerro Narrío.*

Cerro Narrío was a **cemetery** for the Cañaris. They **buried** people with silver, gold, **pottery**, and **weapons**.

Bury *(Enterrar)*	Poner bajo tierra
Pottery *(Vasijas)*	Vasijas hechos de cerámica
Weapons *(Armas)*	Un objeto que usa para proteger
Represent *(Representar)*	Servir como signo o símbolo
Crops *(Cultivo; Cosecha)*	Las plantas de un granjero
Cycle *(Ciclo)*	Una serie de hechos que se repiten
Scales *(Carapaces; escamas)*	Un pequeño hueso que protegen un animal
Principles *(Principales)*	Ideas importantes para una lista de creencias
Archeologists *(Arqueólogo)*	Alguien que estudia la historia de las civilizaciones humanos
Pieces *(Pedazos)*	Una pieza rota de un objeto

Vocabulary

Farmer *(Granjero)*	Persona cuida de una granja y de los productos de campo
Brave *(Valiente)*	Una persona que no tiene miedo
Warrior *(Luchador)*	Persona que lucha
Worship *(Adorar)*	La adoración
Moon *(Luna)*	La diosa que los Cañaris adoraban
Hill *(Loma; Cerro)*	Montaña cubierta de césped
Shell *(Cascada; Concha)*	El exterior de un animal que lo protege
Sacred *(Sagrado)*	Relacionado con la divinidad
Cemetery *(Cementerio)*	Lugar destinado a enterrar a las personas muertas

The shape of the **hill** changed over time. As the Cañaris **buried** more people, the **hill** grew taller.

The Cañaris believed that at night, *Cerro Narrío* opened, and three dogs came out of the **hill**. The dogs protected what was **buried**, and disappeared in the morning.

Comprehension Questions

1. What did the Cañaris worship?
2. What animal is *Cerro Narrío* shaped like?
3. What did the Cañaris use the hill for?
4. What were the Cañaris buried with?
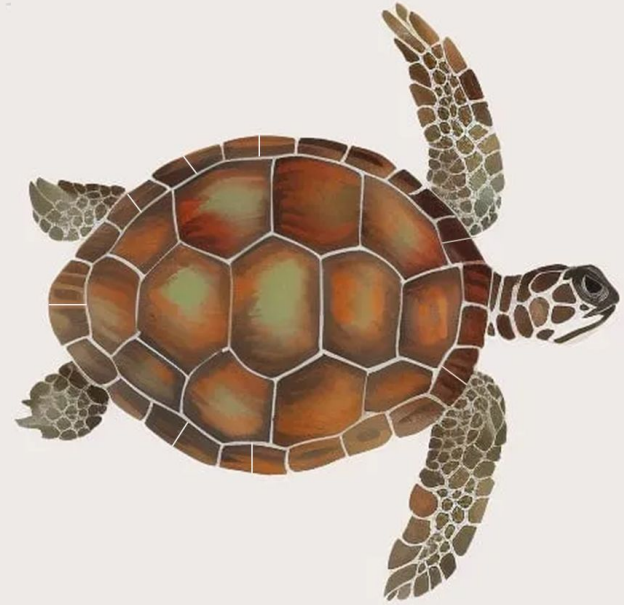5. How many months are in the calendar?

Discussion Questions

1. Did you learn something new today?
2. What was something interesting you learned in this story?

Around *Cerro Narrío* were thirteen smaller **hills**. Each **hill represented** a different month on the Cañari calendar. The **farmers** used this calendar to help them plant their **crops**.

The Cañaris created a calendar that followed the **moon cycle**. The calendar had thirteen months. Each month on the calendar was twenty-eight days long.

You can still see *Cerro Narrío* today. Also, you can find **pieces** of **pottery** all over the **hill**. Even though the **hill** looks different today, it still is important to the community.

They used a turtle **shell** to **represent** their calendar. The **scales** in the middle of the turtle **shell represent** the months of the year. The **scales** around the outside of the turtle **shell represents** the twenty-eight days in each month.

There are seven other **hills** near *Cerro Narrío*. The **hills represent** the **principles** of the Cañaris. Respect, family, and community are important to the Cañaris.

Centuries later, **archeologists**, people who study old civilizations, came to *Cerro Narrío*. They found **pieces** of **pottery**, silver, and gold, but these **archeologists** didn't know about the Cañari culture. All they cared about was the silver and gold.