PRIMOK ®

Cerro Narrío

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WPI

Level 2

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.

The Cañaris live in the Andes Mountains of Ecuador. They are **farmers** and **brave warriors**. The Cañaris love nature and **worship** the **moon**.

They create a **hill** to honor the **moon**. The **hill** shape is like a turtle **shell**, and it looks like a half-**moon**. This **hill** is **sacred**, and they call it *Cerro Narrío.*

Cerro Narrío is a **cemetery** for the Cañaris. They **bury** 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
Principles *(Principales)*	Ideas importantes para una lista de creencias
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 **hill** grows taller when the Cañaris **bury** more people.

The Cañaris believe that at night, three dogs protect the **hill** and leave in the morning.

There are thirteen smaller **hills** around *Cerro Narrío.* Each **hill represents** a different month on the Cañari calendar. The **farmers** use this calendar to help them plant their **crops**.

Comprehension Questions

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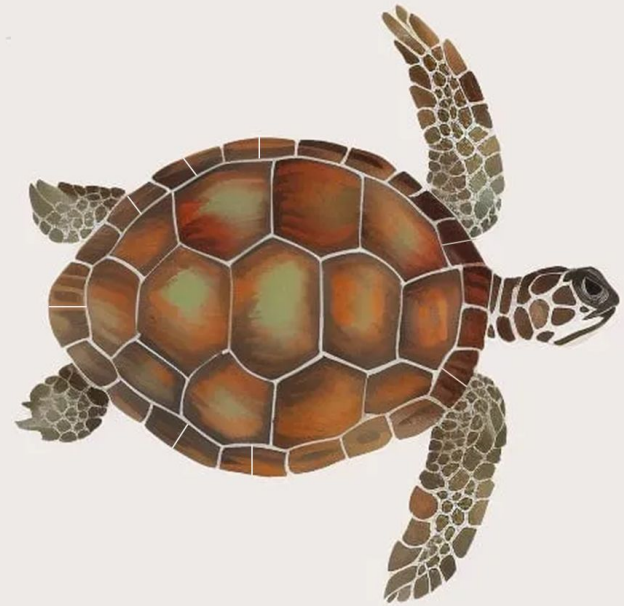5. How many months are in the calendar?

Discussion Questions

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

The Cañaris use a calendar that follows the **moon cycle**. The calendar has thirteen months and each month has twenty-eight days.

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

They use a turtle **shell** to **represent** their calendar. The circles on the **shell represent** the months and days of the year.

There are seven other **hills** near *Cerro Narrío*. Each **hill represents** one of the seven **principles** of the Cañaris. Respect, family, and community are important to the Cañaris.

Some people travel to *Cerro Narrío* to look for **pieces** of **pottery**, silver, and gold. These people don't know about the Cañari culture.