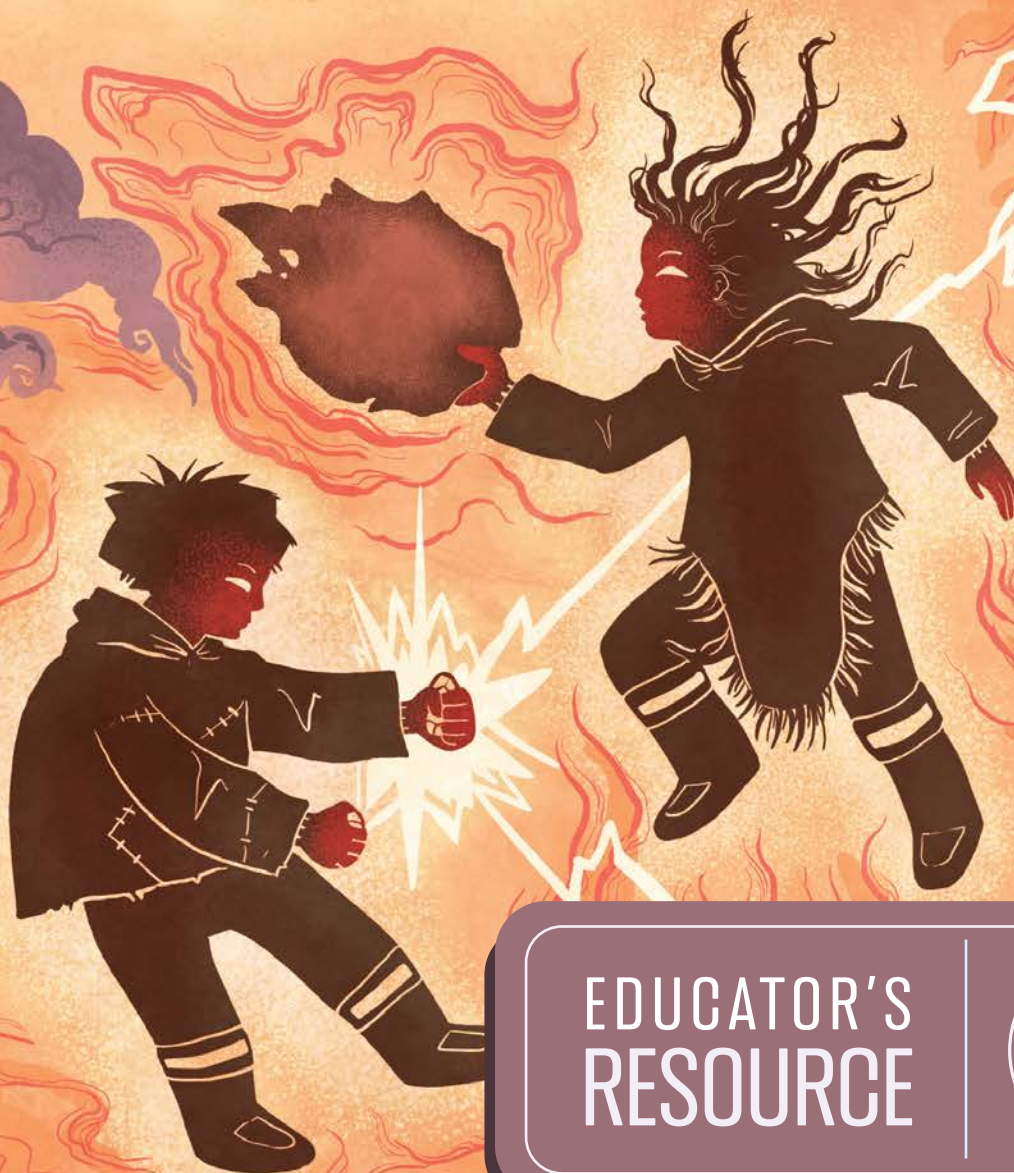


Paula Ikuutaq Rumbolt · Jo Rioux

THE
LEGEND OF
LIGHTNING
& THUNDER



EDUCATOR'S
RESOURCE



The Legend of Lightning and Thunder

About the Book

In *The Legend of Lightning and Thunder*, a traditional legend that has been told in the Kivalliq region of Nunavut for centuries, two siblings resort to stealing from their fellow villagers. In this tale of guilt and consequence, the actions of the two children lead them to flee punishment by escaping to the sky as thunder and lightning. This beautifully illustrated traditional legend weaves together elements of an origin story and a traditional cautionary tale, giving young readers an accessible window into centuries-old Inuit mythology that is specific to the Kivalliq region of Nunavut.

About the Author

Paula Ikuutaq Rumbolt is from Baker Lake, Nunavut. She attended Concordia University in Montreal. Growing up, formal education was strongly encouraged by her grandmother because she realized that this is the way to make it in the modern world. After high school, Paula attended Nunavut Sivuniksavut in Ottawa. There she learned much about Inuit history and culture. She realized how important it was to connect with her culture and began to learn as much as she could after her year in the program. She returned home for a year and learned how to sew, spoke to the Elders in her community, and began to feel a very strong connection to her culture.

About the Illustrator

Jo Rioux was born and raised in Ottawa, Ontario. An artist from an early age, she was eventually drawn to children's books, illustrating *Swordquest* for HarperCollins and the graphic novel series *A Sam and Friends Mystery* for Kids Can Press. Her love for the comic medium spurred her to author her first graphic novel series, *Cat's Cradle*. She lives in the lush suburbs of her hometown, where, when not working at her drawing desk, she can be found nestled within a pile of books.

Note to Educators

This educator's resource is written for Kindergarten to Grade 3 classrooms. The suggested discussion questions and activities can be adapted for each class according to the experiences of students.

Educators can use this book to teach about topics such as:

- Inuit myths and legends
- Storytelling
- Kindness and sharing



- Family relationships/different types of families
- Arctic animals

Pre-Reading Discussion Questions

- What is lightning? Have you seen it before? What makes lightning?
- What is thunder? Have you heard it before? What makes thunder?
- What are some other things that you can find in the sky?
(A rainbow, clouds, rain, etc.)
- Why do you think there are images of animals on the first few introductory pages?
- What do you think this story will be about?
- Who is the author of the story? Who is the illustrator?

During and Post-Reading Discussion Questions

The following questions and discussion points can be used during and after reading *The Legend of Lightning and Thunder*. Provide students with the chance to voice their own opinions, share their experiences, ask questions, or point out anything else they may notice about the book.



- Page 7: What activities do you do to celebrate when winter is over?
- Page 7: Why might the book be mentioning a time before stealing? (Perhaps there is going to be a theft somewhere in this story.)
- Page 8: Do you think there wasn't actually enough, or did the others just not want to share with the orphans?
- Page 11: What might the camp folk do if they find out the boy and girl stole caribou? What might they say to them?
- Page 12: Do you have any siblings? Are they older or younger than you? If you do not, what do you like about being an only child?
- Page 15: Do you think they will get caught?
- Page 22: How long do you think they played? Have you ever lost track of time when you were playing because you were having so much fun?
- Page 27: Can you guess what else they may try and turn into if they're not going to turn into animals?
- What type of story was this?
- Where did the story take place?



- What was the problem in the story?
- What was the solution?
- Who were the main characters? Who were the minor characters?
- What did you like about this story?
- What did you not like about this story?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?
- What did you learn from this story?

Extension Activities

The following activities could be used to help strengthen students' understanding of the story. Adapt these suggestions to the ability level of your students as necessary.

Writing Prompt

- Read the biography of the author, Paula Ikuutaq Rumbolt.
- Pretend you are the author of a book. Write your own biography that includes your name, where you are from, what you like to learn about in school, and some other fun facts about yourself and your family.

Talking Circle

Sit in a circle on the floor or in chairs. Pass around a talking piece and allow each student to have a turn answering a question about the story. Here are some possible questions:

- If you could be lightning or thunder, which one would you be?
- How do you feel when you see lightning or hear thunder?
- What is your favourite type of weather?

Music: Science of Sound

On page 20, the sister says, "It's amazing how many different noises you can make with one thing!"

- Choose an object that you think will make neat sounds. See how many different sounds you can produce using that one object.
- Try to mimic different sounds using household, classroom, or everyday objects.
- Use a barricade so other classmates can't see. Use an object in the classroom to make a sound. Have students guess what object you are using.



Interview a Character

Choose one of the characters in the book that you would like to speak to. Think of five questions that you would like to ask. Switch questions with a partner and pretend you are that character and answer their questions.

Science of Thunder and Lightning

- Make a KWL chart:
 - Know: what we already know
 - Want: what we want to know
 - Learn: what we've learned
- Thinking about lightning and thunder, fill in the K and the W as a class.
- Research in a variety of ways to find answers to your questions.
- Finally, fill in the L section on your chart.

