



Story sheet

The land of the Red People

There was once a land made up entirely of the Red People. The Red People were good at hunting and cooking so they never went hungry. The Red People spent all their days just hunting for food, cooking, eating, drinking water from the streams and sleeping in their caves. They were mostly content but their lives sometimes seemed a bit empty and dull.

One day some Orange People arrived from across the seas. The Orange People were very good at mixing up all different flavours of drinks but were not very good at hunting and cooking. So although they were never thirsty they were quite often hungry and looked very thin. When they came to the land of the Red People they made a deal – ‘We will make and give you lots of delicious drinks if you will let us have some of your tasty food’. The Red People agreed.

A few years later some travellers from the land of the Yellow People arrived. The Yellow People were very skilled at building but they had to leave their land because the rains made it difficult to build new houses for them to live in. They asked the Red People and Yellow People if they could come and live in their land. Instead of living in caves they would build houses for everyone to live in. Everyone thought this was an excellent idea and invited them in to their land.

More years passed and the land was visited by The Green People. The Green People were excellent farmers and they knew how to grow delicious fruit, vegetables, corn, wheat and sugar canes. A couple of harsh winters had meant that the soil in their land had become hard and very little grew. They suggested that if they came to the land of the Red People they would share their harvests if the others would share their food, drinks and houses.

For a few years everyone was happy although with all the extra people and extra food and drinks they grew very tired carrying everything from village to village. The Leader of the Red People contacted the Leader of the Blue People and asked if some of her people could come and live with them. The Blue People were very good at building vehicles which would make transporting all the goods much easier. Soon many Blue People were there and everything was good.

One day the people in the land heard a beautiful noise like nothing they had ever heard before. It lifted their spirits and made them smile. It was a group of travellers from the land of the Indigo People. These people were excellent musicians and made some of the finest music the world had ever heard. The Leader of the Red People begged them to stay as she knew that once her people had heard such fine music they would be so much sadder and their lives would be so much poorer without it. The Indigo People agreed.



The Great Leader of the Red People was getting old now and she looked over her land and smiled. She thought everyone had everything they needed but one day she had a visit from the Violet People. 'Great Leader,' they said, 'We have invented something most marvellous. It is called money and it means that people can get paid for the hard work they do and with the money they get paid they can buy all the things they want – food, crops, drinks, houses, transport and music. It will make things work so much better in your land.'

'What a splendid idea,' said the Great Leader, 'You must come and work here and show us how to use your system of money.' And that is exactly what they did. Very soon the Red People were selling their food, the Orange People were selling their drinks, the Yellow People were selling their houses, the Green People were selling their crops, the Blue people were selling tickets for their transport, the Indigo People were selling tickets for their music concerts and the Violet People were running the banks.

Soon the Great Leader died and a new leader was elected. But the new leader was very different. He remembered when he was a boy and the land belonged just to the Red People. 'Why do we have all these people from the other lands when we can now make our own drinks, grow our own crops, build our own houses, make our own transport, create our own music and run our own banks,' he thought. He passed a law which meant that all the other people had to leave the land and only the Red People were allowed to stay.

However, on the day that the law said that all the people had to leave the country there was a terrible thunderstorm, the like of which nobody had ever seen before. The people looked up at the skies, desperately hoping that the storm would pass and safety would return. As the thunderstorm passed the clouds started to part and against the clear blue sky a beautiful rainbow appeared in the sky. The people had never seen such a beautiful rainbow before and they gazed at it in wonder. The beautiful rainbow, with its seven different colours, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet – reflecting the beauty of nature all around them in their world made the people stop and think: the colours of the beautiful rainbow are joined together. If any colours were missing it would not have such strong, powerful beauty. 'We must stay living together in the same way that all those beautiful colours of the rainbow are joined together!' they said.

The new leader came running out of his home and he too stared at the rainbow. He ordered his staff to bring his new law to him and in front of all the crowds he tore it up into tiny, tiny pieces. Everyone cheered and hugged each other as they heard him declare 'From this day forward, the rainbow will serve as a reminder that we must continue to live together in peace and harmony.'

And that is exactly what they did.