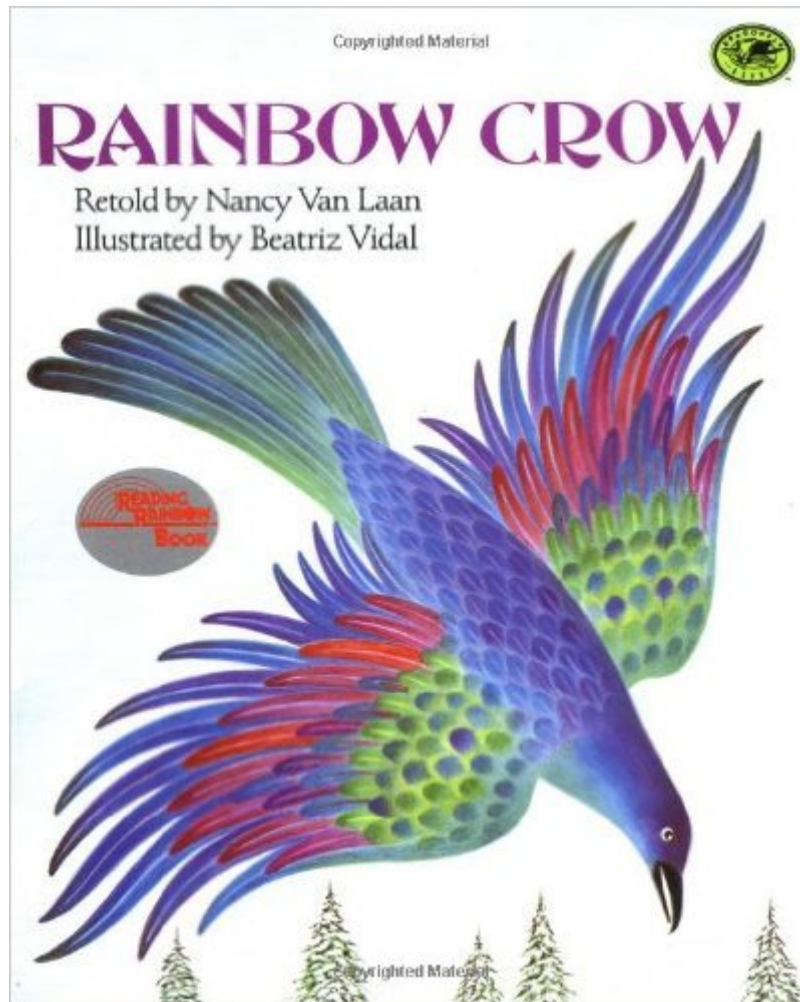


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# Rainbow Crow (Dragonfly Books)



## Synopsis

Illus. in full color. This story of how the Rainbow Crow lost his sweet voice and brilliant colors by bringing the gift of fire to the other woodland animals is "a Native American legend that will be a fine read-aloud because of the smooth text and songs with repetitive chants. The illustrations, done in a primitive style, create a true sense of the Pennsylvania Lenape Indians and their winters."--School Library Journal.Â Â

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 760 (What's this?)

Series: Dragonfly Books

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; Reprint edition (July 2, 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679819428

ISBN-13: 978-0679819424

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #71,386 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans #1279 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

The Rainbow Crow is a beautiful native legend describing how the crow acquired his characteristics. Being a teacher I found this book an excellent way to teach children about "not judging others (mainly on their appearance) without knowing the whole story". In today's society the crow is thought to be loud, ugly and annoying to humans. This book helps us to see that everything has its place in life, and that appearance can be more than just beauty or ugliness. The Rainbow Crow helps us to see the price the beautiful rainbow coloured, song-like voiced bird risked everything he had (without thought for himself) to save the earth's environment. I love all animals, and think that this story personifies the idea of all creatures having a role in the world ecosystem. Perhaps we as humans should look at the "Rainbow Crow" as a role model to help save our

environment regardless of the cost. A great read for adults and children alike!!!

The essential story is about the first coming of snow. The animals of the forest are unable to deal with this new thing that is growing so high it threatens to smother even the tallest of them. Rainbow Crow, because he flies so well, offers to go to Creator to find an answer to the problem. In the beginning, Rainbow Crow is very beautiful. He has many colors, as well as a beautiful long tail. His voice is exquisite. Creator's solution to the problem, however, threatens all of these things. Winter cannot be stopped, but the warmth of the Sun will help the animals live through it. Creator gives Rainbow Crow a bit of the Sun to take back to the animals who are now freezing to death. The piece of the Sun is very hot as Rainbow Crow begins his journey back to the earth. It does not take long for him to realize he will either have to sacrifice some of himself, or save himself and sacrifice those who are depending on him. Rainbow Crow chooses to do what he must to bring life to his friends and family. In the end, the animals do receive the warmth they need to live through the winter. Rainbow Crow, however, has lost his beautiful tail, his gorgeous colors, and his incredible voice. He does still have a bit of color hidden in the sheen of the black, though, to remind people of what he once was, and of the sacrifice he made. I found this to be an excellent story of courage, compassion, and commitment. It is written here in a way that children as well as adults can understand. The illustrations are eye catching and add much to the story as it is being told.

Wow. This book has beautiful illustrations but even better is the telling of how crow saved the animals by bringing fire to earth which turned his color to black but gave him several rewards for his bravery. I read this book to kindergartners up thru fourth grade and they were totally enthralled. A great story success!

Great example of the mythology of another culture. Our family is of a Judeo-Christian tradition so this has given us a great opportunity to talk about another belief system and the way that another tradition explains certain elements of the world around us. And, my daughter now loves it when we see a crow!

This was one of my daughter's favorite books 20 years ago. I was delighted to find it still available for my little great nieces. It is a retelling of the Lenape people's tale about sacrifice for one's friends and learning to appreciate each other for more than how pretty they are. This Native American story explains how the crow came to be black, despite beginning as a gorgeous rainbow colored bird, as

he becomes covered in soot while helping others survive. It teaches the lesson that we should be valued on what we do more than how we look. Olivia and Katie love it.

This is just a wonderful book ... My eight year old granddaughter loved it ... It shares with the reader that sometimes you have to make a sacrifice , in order to help others ... And Rainbow Crow does just that ! .. It's a book that I think every child could learn from in such a positive way ... If you are looking for a book for your child or grandchild , then you might want to consider Rainbow Crow ... I think that you will be happy that you did .

This is a Lenni Lenape creation story with which I have lived for many years. Working with children, we made it into a puppet play several times. The story has an amazing moral -- that when we give all of ourselves, we may suffer. Even so, there are gifts inherent in our suffering. At first these gifts may be hidden, but if we take the teaching inherent in it, we will thrive. This time I bought the book for a wonderful friend who has lost her voice due to a rare spasmodic condition. She loves the story, and told me about two of the many gifts of losing her voice -- that she knows all the bird songs, and that she finds peace in the silence.

Every time I have read this book, to my reading buddies in 2nd grade in elementary school, to my grandchildren, and just to myself, I feel moved by the spirit of the story of bravery, self-sacrifice for others, and the cost of such giving. Of all the tales of various Native American peoples that I have heard or read, I love this one best of all. I have given this book to reading buddies and to my grandchildren - after reading it to them - and all have enjoyed it too. Not only is the story wonderful; the pictures paint the animals and the world in glorious color. Even the black which Crow eventually accepts for himself, can be seen in all its beauty. This book is a keeper and worth buying.

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