

# SAMPLE

## WRITE YOUR OWN POURQUOI STORY!

### A WORKSHEET FOR WRITERS

"Pourquoi" is the French word for "why." Pourquoi stories are tales that explain WHY or HOW something is in the world. Many different cultures all over the world have pourquoi stories.

YOU can write your own pourquoi story. To write your story, think about the following things:

1. What is it that you are explaining? (Titles of pourquoi stories often start with "how" or "why.")

**Why the moon is in the sky — How it got to be there**

2. Who is your main character? (Is it a male or female? Animal or human?)

**A Native American girl named *Running Deer***

3. What other characters are there?

**Her brother, Fox;  
Her mother and father**

4. Where do they live?

**In the forest, by a creek**

5. When do they live? (Most pourquoi stories take place a long time ago.)

**A long, long time ago**

6. What is the problem in your story that leads to the thing you are explaining?

**Running Deer always wants to run. She often boasts that she is the quickest runner in the world, and challenges her brother to a race saying she can run faster and farther than he can. She prays to the gods to help her run all the way around the world.**

7. How do we see this thing today?

**They answer her wish by having her run so fast that she turns into a bright light and they place her in the sky, where she becomes the moon and can "run" around the world every day!**

Any other notes: