



Essential Question

How can we understand nature?



Go Digital!



Stories About Nature

Have you ever seen a beetle with such bright colors? For years, people have been trying to explain nature through stories. Here are some questions people have tried to answer:

- ▶ Why does a zebra have stripes?
- ▶ Why is the sky blue?

Talk About It



Work with a partner. Think of some questions you have about nature. Write your questions on the chart.



Vocabulary

Use the picture and sentence to learn each word.



ashamed

Kim felt **ashamed** that she hurt her friend's feelings.

Describe how you feel when you are ashamed.



boast

They always **boast** that they are the best team.

What are some things people might boast about?



dash

People had to **dash** to get out of the rain.

How do you move when you dash somewhere?



holler

I heard Sandy **holler** for her dog.

When else might someone holler?



plenty

There was **plenty** of fresh corn at the picnic.

What is something you have plenty of?



similarities

There are many **similarities** between my brother and me.

What is the opposite of similarities?



victory

Winning the race was a great **victory** for our team.

Tell about a victory you have had.



wisdom

Grandpa used his **wisdom** to help me solve my problem.

Tell how you know someone has wisdom.

Your Turn

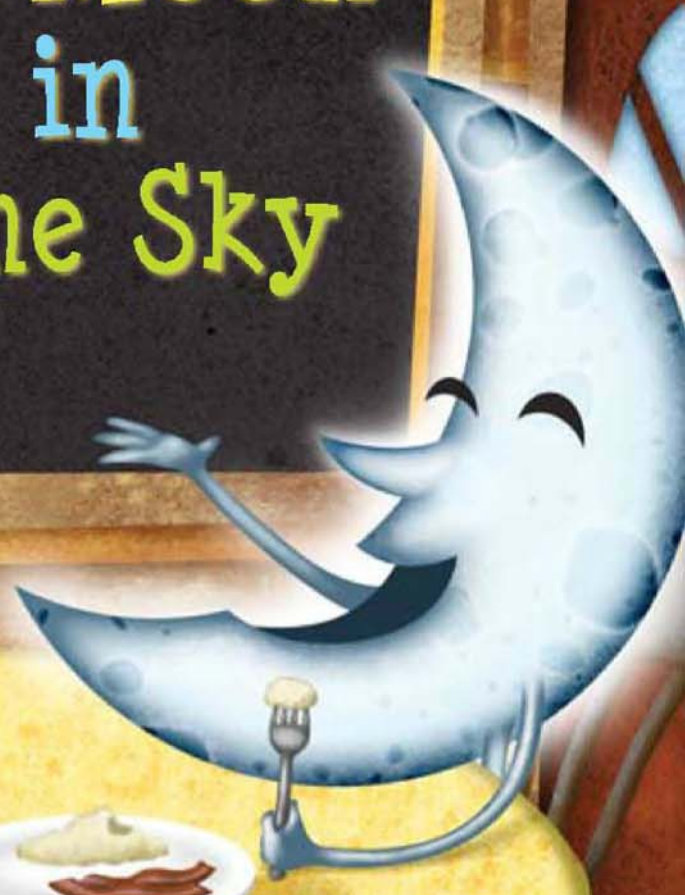
COLLABORATE



Pick three words. Write three questions for your partner to answer.

Go Digital! Use the online visual glossary

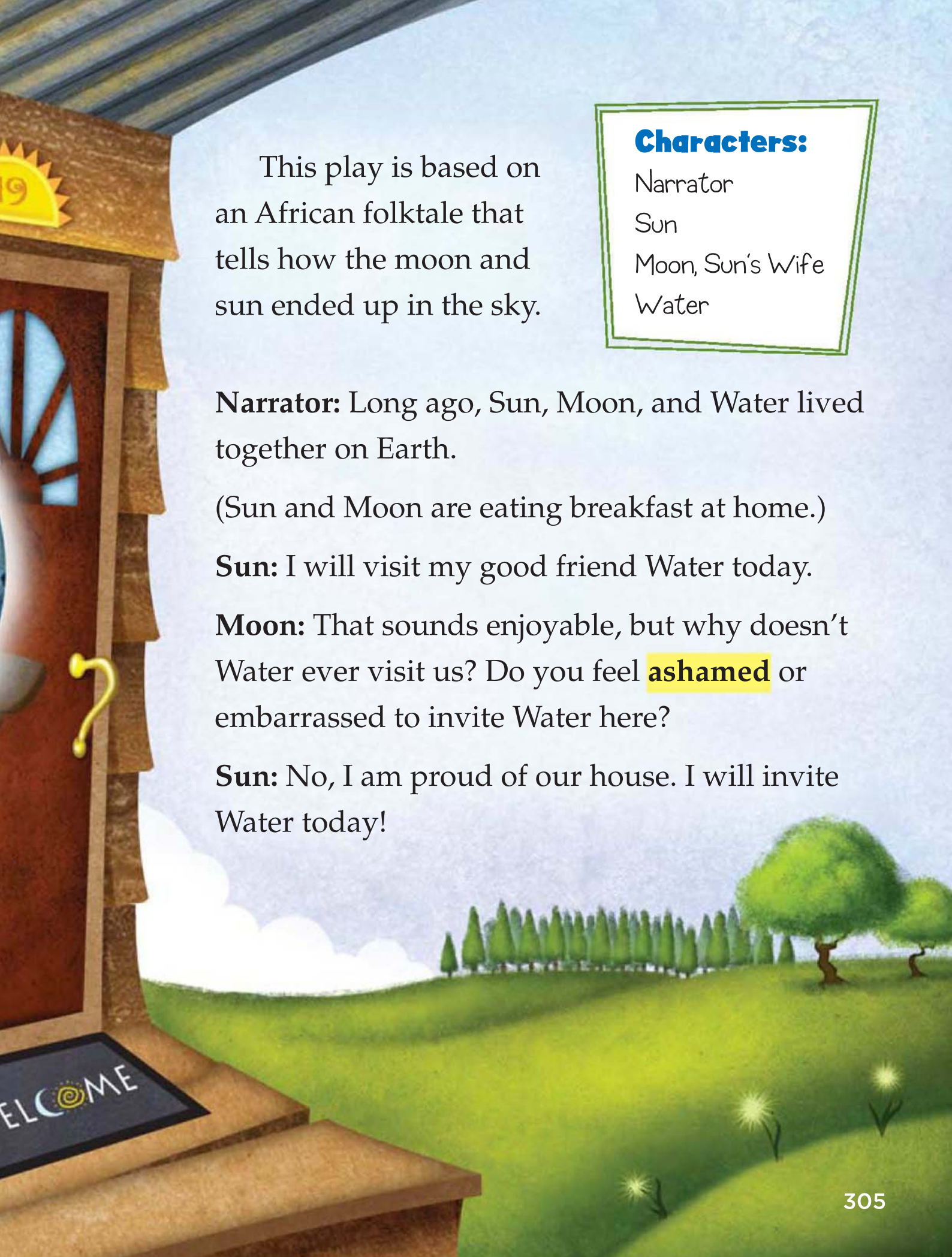
Why the Sun and Moon Live in the Sky



Essential Question

How can we understand nature?

Read about how the sun and the moon ended up in the sky.



This play is based on an African folktale that tells how the moon and sun ended up in the sky.

Characters:

Narrator

Sun

Moon, Sun's Wife

Water

Narrator: Long ago, Sun, Moon, and Water lived together on Earth.

(Sun and Moon are eating breakfast at home.)

Sun: I will visit my good friend Water today.

Moon: That sounds enjoyable, but why doesn't Water ever visit us? Do you feel **ashamed** or embarrassed to invite Water here?

Sun: No, I am proud of our house. I will invite Water today!

(Sun visits Water at the beach.)

Sun: Water, why don't you ever visit us?

Water: Your house can't hold me and my family.

Sun: That's nonsense! Moon and I will enlarge our house, so there will be **plenty** of room for everyone!



Water: Then I will visit you.

Sun: Wonderful! Please **holler** loudly, so I hear you when you arrive. Now I must **dash** home quickly to start the work.

(Sun rushes home.)

Narrator: Sun and Moon raced to make their home larger. They added rooms and raised the roof higher. The new house was completely different and had no **similarities** to their old home. They felt it was a **victory**, or a win, for now their friend could visit.

Water: Sun and Moon, I have arrived!



Sun: Isn't this the largest home you've seen?

Moon: Sun, it's not polite to brag, so please don't **boast** to our guest. Water, come inside.

Narrator: Water splashed through the door carrying colorful fish, frogs, and crabs. As the water began to rise, Sun and Moon climbed onto furniture. Then they scrambled onto the roof.

Sun: Moon, I'm not sure about the **wisdom** of inviting Water. Perhaps this wasn't a smart idea!

Moon: No, Sun, it was the right thing to do but we must fly to safety!

Narrator: Sun and Moon flew to the sky, where they remain today and still shine down on Water.



Make Connections

What does this folktale explain about nature? **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

How is this story different from what you know about the sun and moon? **TEXT TO SELF**