

# *The Story of the Rainbow:*

## *An Indian Legend (Anon)*

See pp. 282 – 283, MMADD about the Arts

### **Reader 1:**

*In a time long ago, all the colours in the world started to argue; each claimed that they were the best, the most important, the most useful, the most powerful.*

### **Reader 2:**

*Green said, 'Of course I am the most important. I am the sign of new life and of hope. I was chosen to paint the grass, the trees, the leaves - without me all the animals would die. Look out over the countryside and you will see that I cover the earth with a carpet of vitality, beauty and life'.*



### **Reader 3:**

*Blue interrupted: 'You only think about the earth, but look up and see the sky and the sea; water is the basis of life and this is drawn up by the clouds from the blue sea. The expanse of sea and sky gives space and peace and security. Without my life-giving force and calming influence you would all burnout or die of thirst'.*

### **Reader 4:**

*Yellow chuckled: 'You are all so serious. I bring laughter, fun and warmth into the world. The sun shines a brilliant yellow, the moon gleams a peaceful yellow and the stars sparkle bright yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower, a daffodil or a cob of corn the whole world starts to smile. Without me there would be no fun or laughter'.*



### **Reader 5:**

*Orange snorted in derision: 'I am the colour of nutrition, health and strength. I may be scarce but I am precious for I serve the inner needs of human life. I carry all the most important vitamins in my carrots and pumpkins, oranges, mangoes, persimmons and pawpaws. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise or sunset, my beauty is spell-binding so no one gives another thought to any of you'.*

**Reader 6:**

*Red* shouted impatiently: 'I am the blood that courses through your veins, the ruler of you all, blood, life's blood. I am the colour of danger and of bravery, of fire and of safety. I am fire in the blood and am willing to fight for a cause. Without me earth would be as dull and empty as the desert. I am the colour of passion and of love; the red, red rose, the coral tree, the poinsettia and the poppy.'



**Reader 7:**

*Purple* drew himself regally to his full height. He was very tall and he spoke with great pomp and strength: 'I am the colour of royalty and power, kings, chiefs and bishops have always chosen to wear me for I am a sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me, they hasten to obey.'

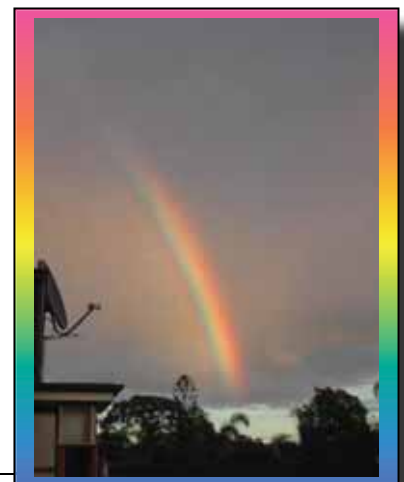
**Reader 8:**

There was a pause, then *Indigo* spoke up, much more quietly than all the others, but just as determinedly: 'Think of me. I am the colour of depth and silence. You hardly notice me, but without me, you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight, outer space and deep waters. You need me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace.'



**Reader 9:**

The *mighty rain* had been listening as the colours argued and he called them to listen: 'You foolish colours, fighting among yourselves, each trying to dominate the others. Look at yourselves, each one of you is unique and different. Come together and celebrate these differences. Join hands with one another and come with me. I will stretch you across the sky in a great rainbow of colour, as a reminder that you can all live in peace together.'



**Reader 1:** And so whenever a good rain has washed the earth, we can see a rainbow in the sky and remember that we are each important and unique and together we can create beauty.