

Student Writing Sample from Motoko's Creative Writing Residency Our Own Folktales

Cob The Cobra

Written by Teddy (a 3th grader studying about watercycle)

Cob the Cobra was racing his friends Leo the Lion and Falc the Falcon. "Cob, time for dinner," yelled his great-grandfather. His great-grandfather was the only one with him. The rest of his family went on a trip to the American coast, but Cob was too young, and his great-grandfather was too old.

Falc and Leo were Cob's best friends. They lived near the middle of Africa. They moved to the beach to live near Cob. They loved to race, too. They raced with each other and with Cob every day.

One sunny day Cob woke to a horrible sight. The water level was 5 feet, 2 inches when he went to bed. Now it was 2 inches. Then Leo came over and said, "Do you know why Falc and I have to move everyday to be on the beach?"

"Yeah, it looks like the ocean is getting smaller," said Falc.

"But why?" asked Cob.

"There has been a drought,"

"Oh yeah, a drought." Cob had a very nervous look. "Be right back," said Cob, and he left.

Cob asked his great-grandfather what he should do. He said, "Go to the middle of the ocean and you will probably get a hint of what's causing it there."

Cob went to the middle of the ocean and saw the second horrible sight that day. He saw the cube that makes the water cycle work was broken. When Cob got back, he, Falc, and Leo decided to go figure out who was doing this and why. "I saw dragon footprints so I know now what's going on," said Cob.

Cob, Leo, and Falc traveled across the plains of Africa. It looked like the plains would never end and they would never get there. Finally, after 7 days, they saw a building that was dome shaped and silver. In a large hole they saw a multiple headed dragon. Cob swam up the lake a little more and said, "Are you causing the ocean to get smaller?"

“Who wants to know?” yelled one of the heads. “I’m Cob the water cobra and these are my two friends,” Cob answered.

“Who cares?” barked the other head.

Cob, Leo and Falc decided to trick the dragon. Cob said, “I will swim through the little hole that he uses to suck in the water. Then you two find another way in and distract him, and then I’ll turn off the machine that’s sucking it in.”

First, Cob went under the water and even though it was a tight squeeze he made it through and found a button. He knew he needed to be patient. Second, Leo jumped through the crack that the dragon was looking out. Third, Falc flew through a hole. Then they distracted him, and Cob pushed the button and swam out. Leo jumped, and Falc flew out. The dragon yelled, “What did you do?” Finally, the friends sent the dragon to another world, then they fixed the water cube. This cube made the water cycle work.

The three friends felt relieved that the dragon was gone. They knew they would have to check up on the dragon. They followed the river home. When they got there, the whole community of animals welcomed them with a party.