

STORY: THE WOMAN AND THE EEL BY VICTORIA



Once upon a time in a tiny village of Bara'asi of West Kwaio, there lived a woman and her baby. The baby had sores all over its body and the people of the village didn't want them in the village.

They left the village and she looked for a cave to live in. She was a brave strong woman who always carried her baby up to the mountains to look for food.

On her way down from the mountains, she would stop by a small stream to wash the sores off her baby. As she was washing her baby's sore, she noticed her baby was thirsty, so she went to get a leaf to fold as a cup.

When she returned, a big eel had come and pulled her baby into the water. She cried for help, but no-one could hear her. She ran back to the village for help.

The villagers came and set traps to catch the eel, but the eel broke the trap. The village kids also built traps and they caught the eel. The adults came and captured the eel.

They made a big feast for catching the eel, preparing a big motu with lots of vegetables. When they opened the motu, all the vegetables were cooked except the eel.

The eel's head told them that their village is not safe, and they should leave. Don't look back when the first and second thunder and lightning strike. When the third thunder and lightning strike, look back at the village.

When they turned back to their village, a sinkhole had swallowed the village. From there they realized that it's good to respect and be nice to each other. They promised to look after those who are ill and live peacefully together.

CREATING YOUR BIG BOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- 8 A4 sheets of paper
- Crayons or pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read the story
2. Follow the guidance below to create your big book
3. Read the big book to your child
4. Ask questions before, during and after the story is read.



QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER READING

- a. What can you see in this picture? What do you think the story is about?
- b. Why do you think the villagers did not want the baby in the village?
- c. Do you capture eels in your village? How do you trap them?
- d. Why do you think the eel wanted to protect the villagers?
- e. What is the moral of the story?

COVER PAGE TITLE AND AUTHOR

The Women and the eel

PAGE 1

Drawing of mother and baby

PAGE 2

Drawing of mother carrying her baby and a basket around her head

PAGE 3

Drawing of mother folding a leaf as a cup

PAGE 4

Drawing of Eel swimming back to its cave

PAGE 5

Drawing of Eel caught in a trap

PAGE 6

Drawing of Preparing food for motu, women and kids

PAGE 7

Drawing of dark clouds, lightning strikes

PAGE 8

Drawing of houses going down and people holding hands as sign of peace

BACK PAGE

Drawing of the eel

