

# How the Little Frog Got So Loud

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The coquí is a frog from Puerto Rico.  
*United States Department of Agriculture*

A tiny type of frog lives on the island of Puerto Rico. It's called the coquí (Ko-KEE), and it spends a lot of time in trees. The coquí is only about an inch long. But you would never know that from its big sound! When the sun goes down, coquí males start singing: Ko-kee, ko-kee, ko-kee! They call out very loudly till the sun comes up.

The original people of Puerto Rico are called the Taíno. Long ago, they were fascinated by these teeny frogs. The Taíno told many stories to explain why the coquí sings so loudly.

Here's one of those stories:

Long ago, a goddess came to the island. She fell in love with the son of a local Taíno chief. His name was Coquí. This goddess took good care of Coquí. She helped him catch fish. She protected him from harm. One night, the goddess and Coquí made plans to be together. But then a terrible hurricane blew in. When the storm passed, the goddess searched everywhere but could not find Coquí! He was lost, forever.

To remember her beloved, the goddess taught the frogs to call his name. She is hoping that one day he will answer. That's why every night across Puerto Rico, frogs chirp, "Coquí, Coquí."

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What kind of animal is a coquí?

- A. a huge lizard
- B. a tiny frog
- C. a tiny fish

2. What does this text describe?

- A. the different animals that live in Puerto Rico and their diets
- B. the biggest mountain in Puerto Rico and the people who climbed it
- C. the coquí's and one story that the Taíno people told about them

3. Read these sentences from the passage.

“Here’s one of those stories: Long ago, a goddess came to the island. She fell in love with the son of a local Taíno chief. His name was Coquí.”

What can you conclude about the Taíno’s stories based on this information?

- A. Their stories were only about animals.
- B. Normal people had relationships with gods in their stories.
- C. Gods were always mean to humans in their stories.

4. How did the Taíno’s story explain the coquí’s loud voice?

- A. It said that a goddess taught the frogs to sing the name of her lost love.
- B. It said that a wicked witch put a curse on the frog for being rude to her.
- C. It said that a goddess got turned into a frog because she angered her father.

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. Long ago, the Taíno told stories about the coquí to explain its loud voice.
- B. The coquí is a small frog that lives on Puerto Rico.
- C. A goddess once fell in love with Coquí, a Taíno chief’s son.