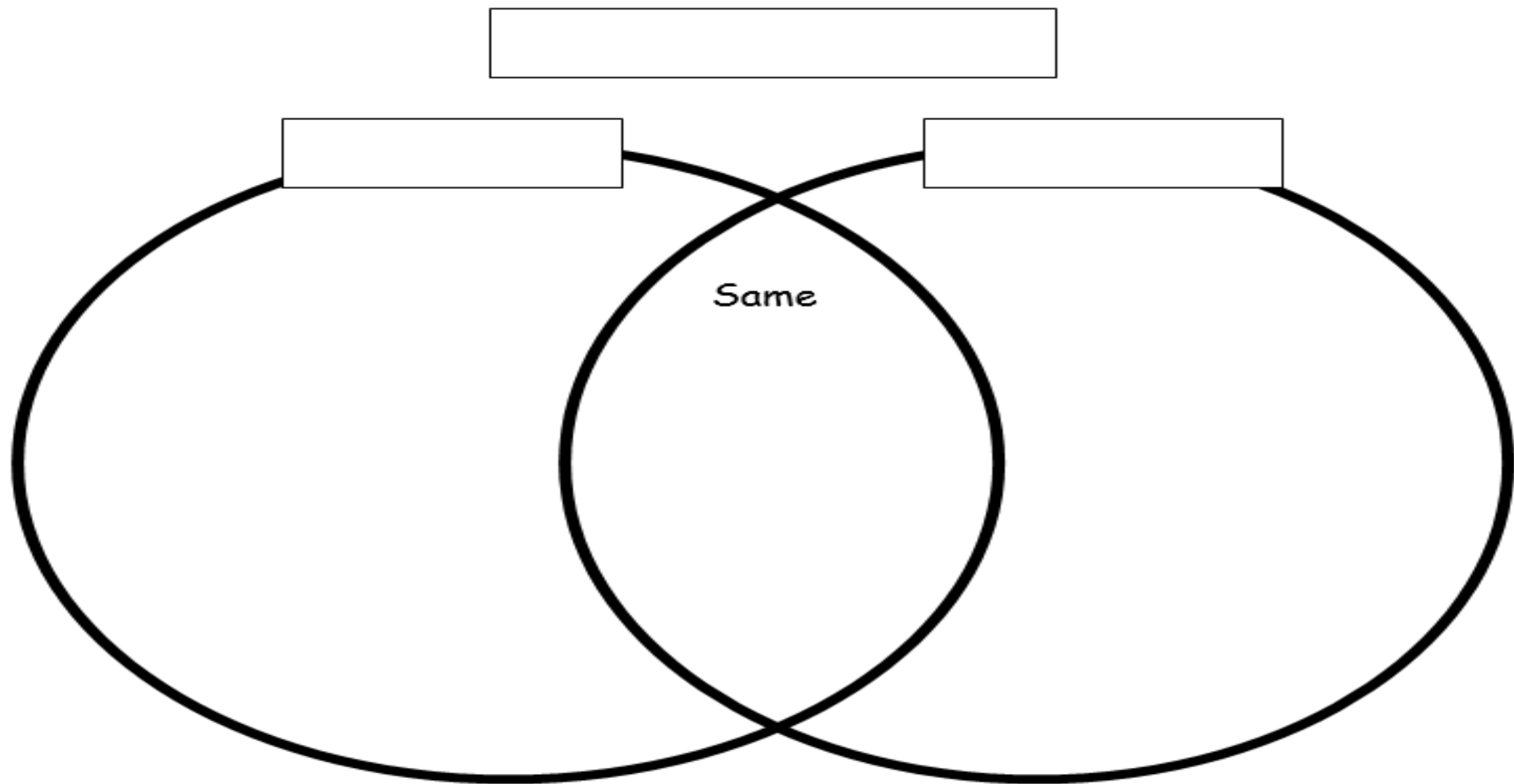


ARTSmart: Coyotes



Compare and Contrast

Use the Venn Diagram that follows to list how these coyotes are different and the same.



Peter (Fritz) Fritts Felten, Jr.

Born 1933, Hays, Kansas

Coyote, 1969

Woodcut

Gift of Nancy S. Vogel, Ph.D. in memory of John H. and Irene Schaake Vogel and Gerald M. Vogel, 2015.123

Felten is known for his stone sculptures of Bison—a giant one welcomes visitors to Hayes, Kansas. His version of the Coyote (*Canis latrans*) seems to capture some of the human character traits associated with the animal. Coyotes have been referred to as wily or crafty and Felten's seems to be kin to the cartoon character Wile E. Coyote, perhaps hatching a plan against his nemesis, the Roadrunner.





A.P. Coyote... MySSMmL '14

Jaune Quick-To-See Smith, (Salish/Ksanka (Kootenai))

Born 1940, Flathead Reservation, Montana

Coyote Turned the Giants into Boulders, 2014

Printed by Neal Ambrose-Smith

Linoleum cut

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of Joe and Barb Zanatta, 2018.372

Quick-to-See Smith and her son Ambrose-Smith collaborated on this print of a coyote encountering and conquering the big city. Animals are a common feature of Native American lore. Smith has written: "Coyote is part of our Salish creation story, s/he helped Amotken "turn on the lights" at the beginning of the world. Coyote is also every human, foolish, bright, conniving, beneficent, helpful, greedy and generous. Coyote is a trickster and is always turning everything around, upside down."

Coyote Facts

Canis latrans



- Coyotes weigh only about 20 pounds, making them the size of a medium dog.
- Coyotes raise their pups in dens or holes in the ground. They usually have two to four pups.
- Coyotes make high yipping sounds. These sounds get louder and faster when they close in on prey.
- Coyotes are carnivores, but they eat fruit and vegetables too. They can also be scavengers, eating dead animals and trash.

Do Coyotes Howl At the Moon?

Howling is one of a variety of vocal communication that is used by canids to communicate. One reason for howling is to advertise their home range or territory. Coyotes use other methods such as scent markings like urinating on their boundary and leaving scat for their competitors to find, but howling signals to other coyotes further away and lets them know that the territory is taken. Another reason a coyote howls is to locate a member of their pack. Coyote howls are much like human voices in that they are unique and recognizable by their family, or pack.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2RMGGV32raE>

Howling Coyote

Much of coyote behavior happens at night. When the moon is fuller on a clear night, coyotes have the advantage of seeing better and further in the dark. If the coyote happens to live in the forest regions, this provides an excellent opportunity that he will take advantage of to hunt for food into the night. In these regions, particularly in the Northeast where coyotes are larger, they will hunt together as a pack to take down larger prey such as deer that are also using the moonlight as a light source. When hunting in packs, coyotes will howl to signal to the other members where they are and when they are ready to attack.

While the coyote is out hunting his territory, he will howl to other potential intruder coyotes that are looking for a moonlight meal that they are not welcome.

So it is more appropriate to say “Coyotes howl under the moon.”

How to recognize a gray wolf

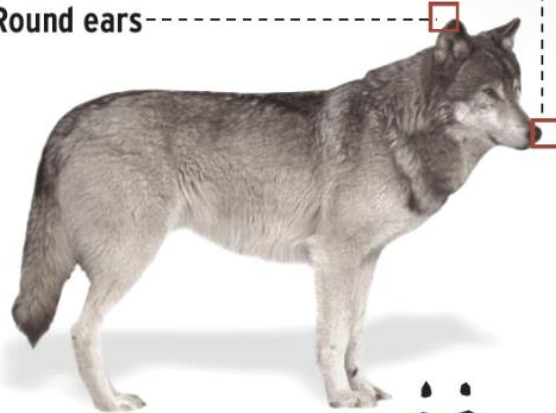
GRAY WOLF

Color: light gray to black

Dimensions: 2.5 feet tall, 5-6 feet long

Broad snout

Round ears



80-120 pounds

Paw size: 4" x 5"



Wolves are protected by federal law under the Endangered Species Act.

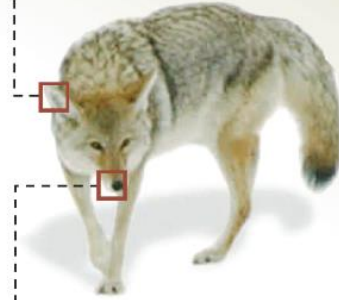
Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

COYOTE

Color: light gray/brown

Dimensions: 1.5 feet tall, 4 feet long

Tall pointed ears



Narrow snout

20-50 pounds

Paw size: 2" x 2.5"



The Salt Lake Tribune

There are 19 different subspecies of coyote, according to the Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS). The size and coat color of coyotes varies slightly across these subspecies. For example, coyotes that live in the mountains have darker coats, while ones that live in the desert have lighter coats.

Coyotes are capable of mating with dogs and wolves, producing hybrid offspring known as coydogs and coywolves. These hybrids are unlikely to occur in the wild.

The 19 subspecies are:

- Canis latrans cagottis (Mexican coyote)
- Canis latrans clepticus (San Pedro Martir coyote)
- Canis latrans dickeyi (Salvador coyote)
- Canis latrans frustror (south-eastern coyote)
- Canis latrans goldmani (Belize coyote)
- Canis latrans hondurensis (Honduras coyote)
- Canis latrans impavidus (Durango coyote)
- Canis latrans incolatus (northern coyote)
- Canis latrans jamesi (Tiburón Island coyote)
- Canis latrans (plains coyote)
- Canis latrans lestes (mountain coyote)
- Canis latrans mearnsi (Mearns coyote)
- Canis latrans microdon (Lower Rio Grande coyote)
- Canis latrans ochropus (California valley coyote)
- Canis latrans peninsulae (peninsula coyote)
- Canis latrans texensis (Texas plains coyote)
- Canis latrans thamnos (north-eastern coyote)
- Canis latrans umpquensis (northwest coast coyote)
- Canis latrans vigilis (Colima coyote)

Coyote Lore

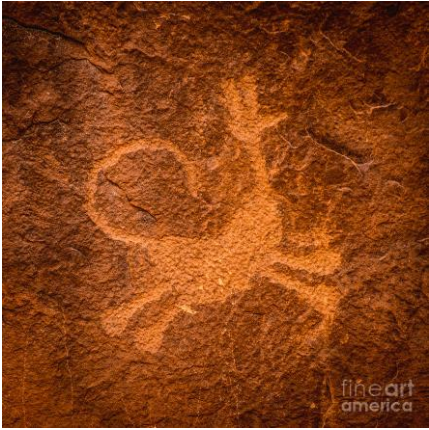
Prior to the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire, Coyote played a significant role in Mesoamerican cosmology. The coyote symbolized military might in Classic era Teotihuacan, with warriors dressing up in coyote costumes to call upon its predatory power.

In Aztec mythology, Huehucóyotl (meaning "old coyote"), the god of dance, music, is depicted in several codices as a man with a coyote's head. He is sometimes depicted as a womanizer, responsible for bringing war into the world by seducing Xochiquetzal, the goddess of love.

The god Quetzalcoatl may owe its origins to pre-Aztec Uto-Aztecan mythological depictions of the coyote, which is portrayed as mankind's "Elder Brother", a creator, seducer, trickster, and culture hero linked to the morning star.



Mural from Atetelco, Teotihuacán depicting coyote warriors



Howling Coyote Petroglyph - Moab - Utah photograph by Gary Whitton



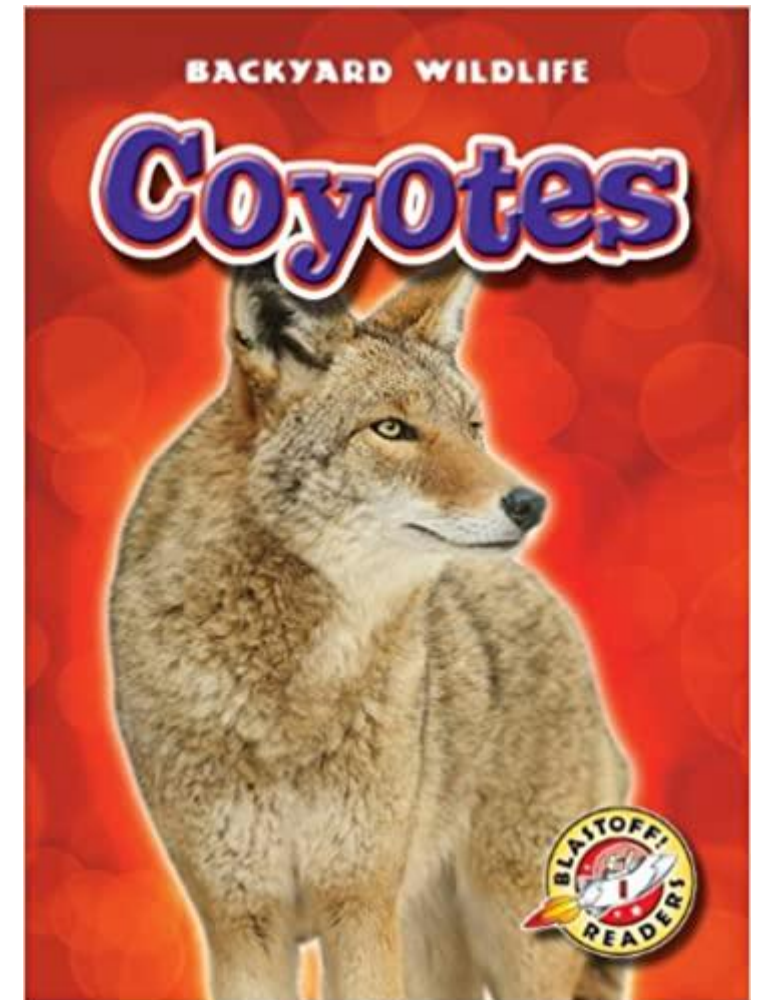
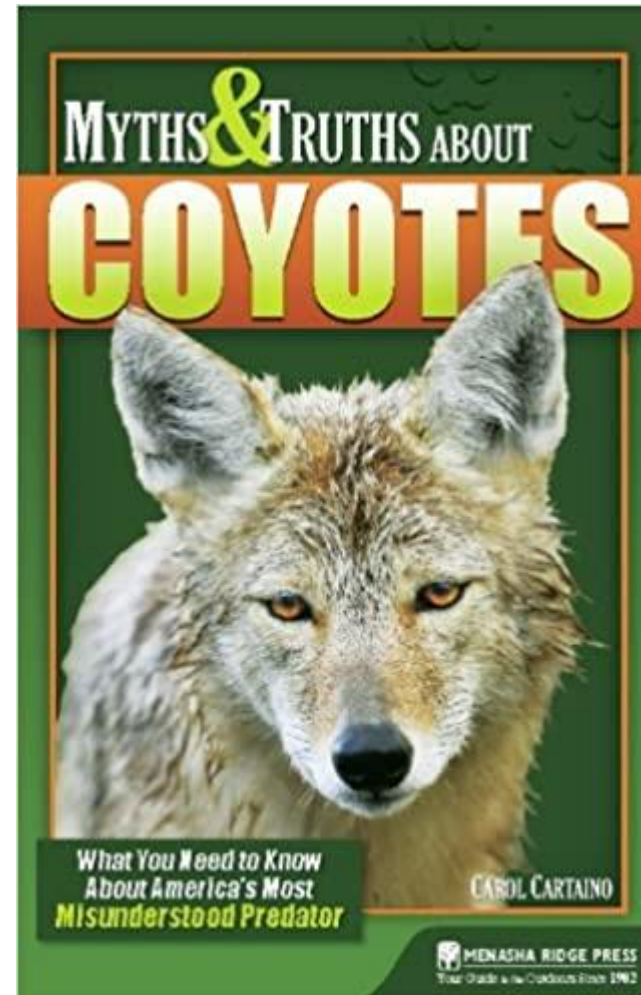
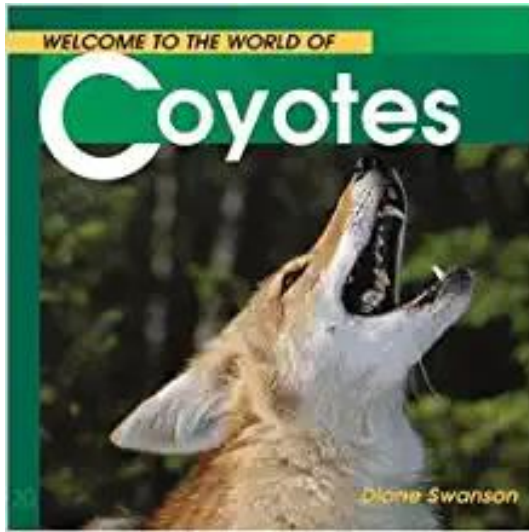
She Who Watches, a petroglyph/pictograph overlooking the Columbia River near The Dalles.

Coyote features as a trickster figure and skin-walker in the folktales of some Native Americans, notably several nations in the Southwestern and Plains regions, where he can assume the form of an actual coyote or that of a man. As with other trickster figures, Coyote acts as a hero who rebels against social convention through deception and humor. Folklorists believe coyotes came to be seen as tricksters due to the animal's intelligence and adaptability.

- In the Maidu creation story, Coyote introduces work, suffering, and death to the world.
- Zuni lore has Coyote bringing winter into the world by stealing light from the kachinas.
- The Chinook, Maidu, Pawnee, Tohono O'odham, and Ute portray the coyote as the companion of The Creator.
- A Tohono O'odham flood story has Coyote helping Montezuma survive a global deluge that destroys humanity.
- The Crow creation story portrays Old Man Coyote as The Creator.
- In the Dineh creation story, Coyote was present in the First World with First Man and First Woman, though a different version has it being created in the Fourth World.
- The Navajo Coyote brings death into the world, explaining that without death, too many people would exist, thus no room to plant corn.

After the European colonization of the Americas, Anglo-American depictions of Coyote are of a cowardly and untrustworthy animal. Unlike the gray wolf, which has undergone a radical improvement of its public image, Anglo-American cultural attitudes towards the coyote remain largely negative.

Learn more about coyotes



Additional Coyotes from the BMA collection



Patricia DuBose Duncan

Coyote and Tall Grass, 1987

Xerograph with colored pencil on paper

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of the artist, 1998.72

God's Dog, 1991

Xerograph collage with prismatic color and charcoal on paper

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of the artist, 1998.60





You can learn more about artist Neal Ambrose-Smith by accessing the “Voices: Artists Who Inspire” entry on the Beach Buddies Facebook Group August 1, 2020.

Neal Ambrose-Smith

Big City Indian, 2009

Etching with hand-drawn additions on paper

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of Joe and Barb Zanatta, Zanatta Editions, 2009.72

This print is the Beach Museum of Art's 2021 Common Work of Art, chosen to go with K-State's First Book, *The Marrow Thieves* by Cherie Dimaline. It is on display in the museum's Wefald Gallery.

Neal Ambrose-Smith

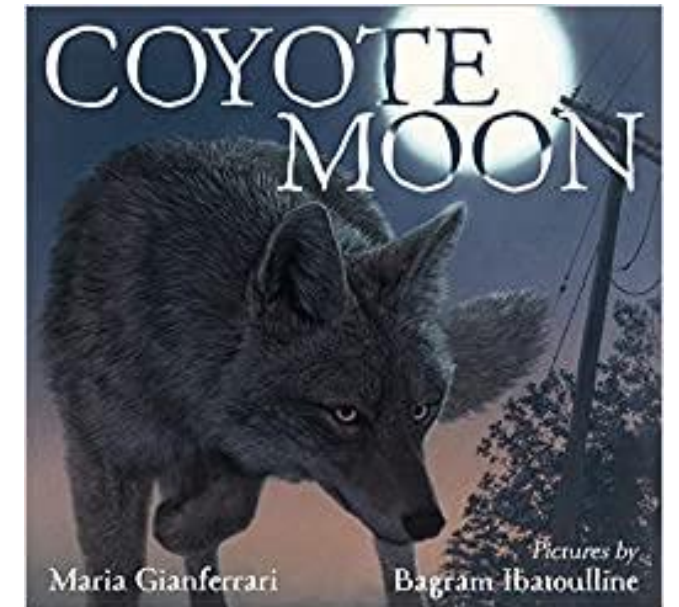
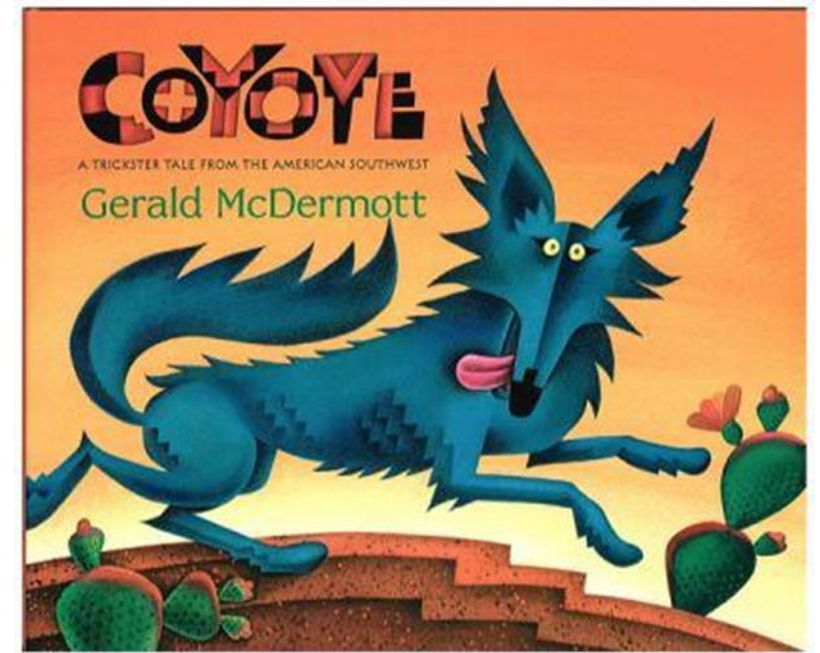
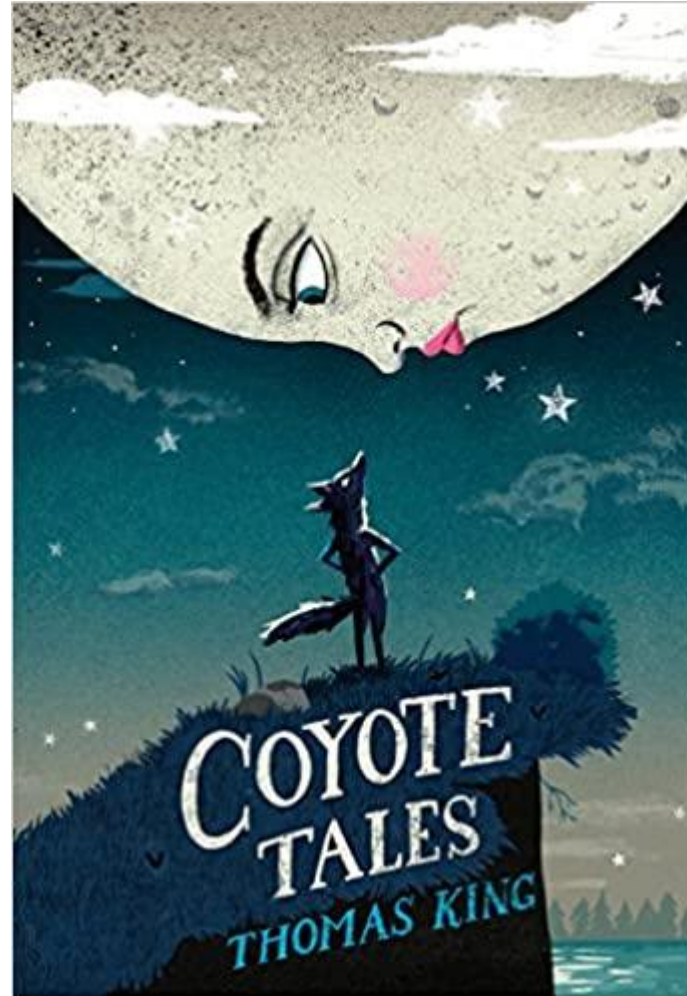
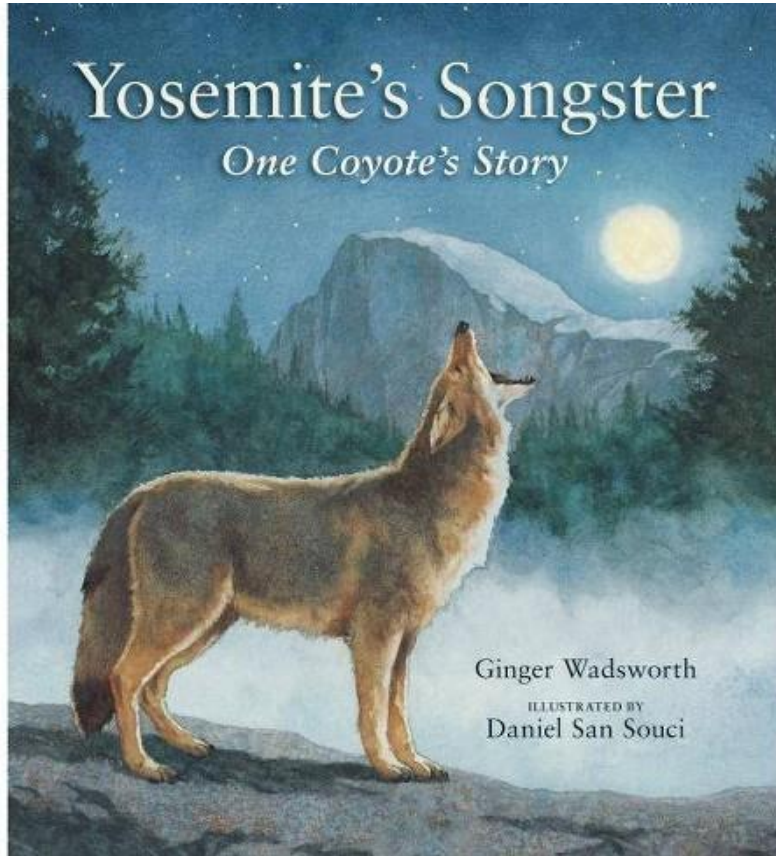
From Upstream I Caught Fish, 2008

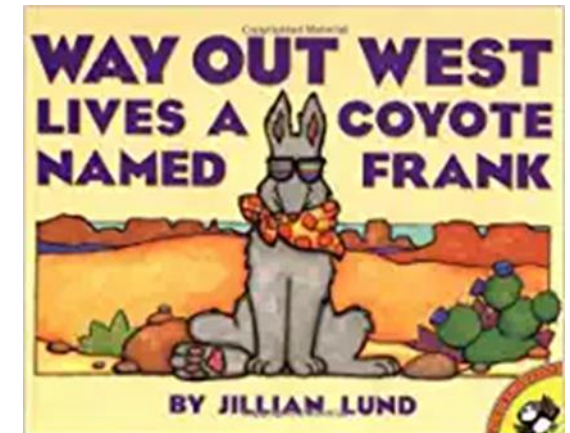
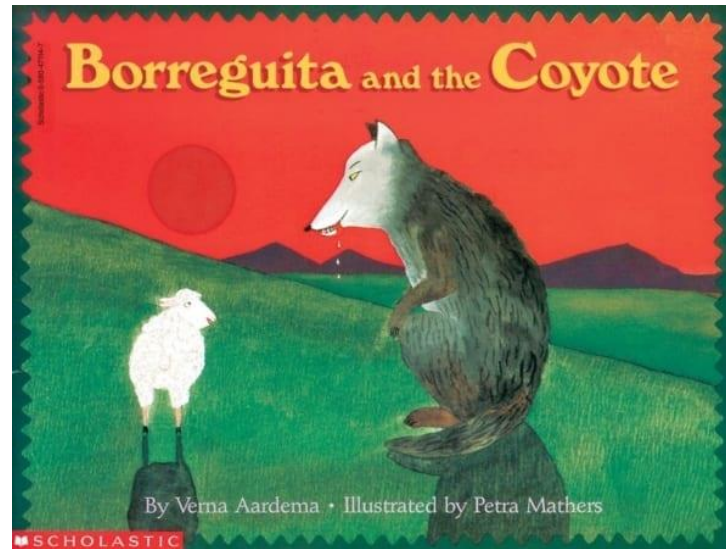
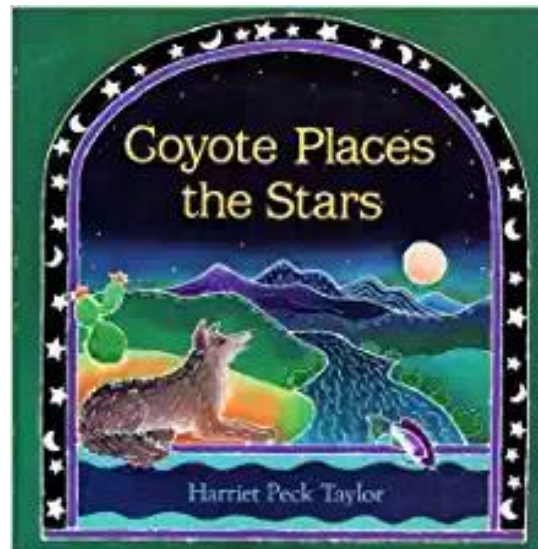
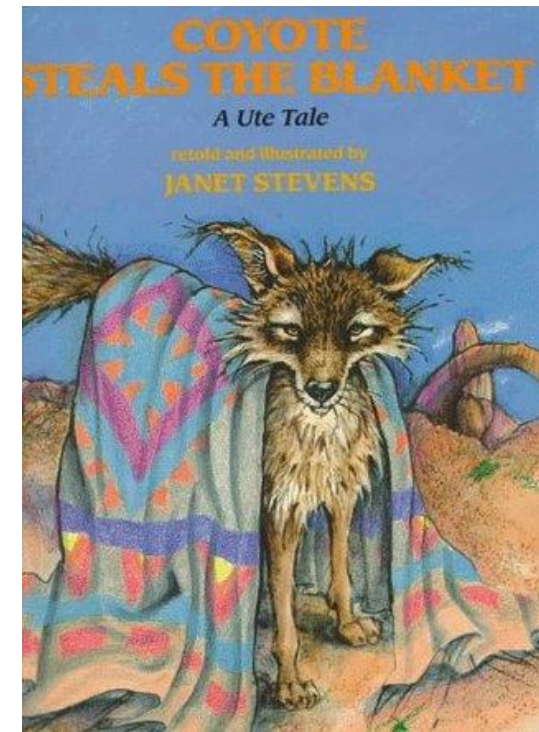
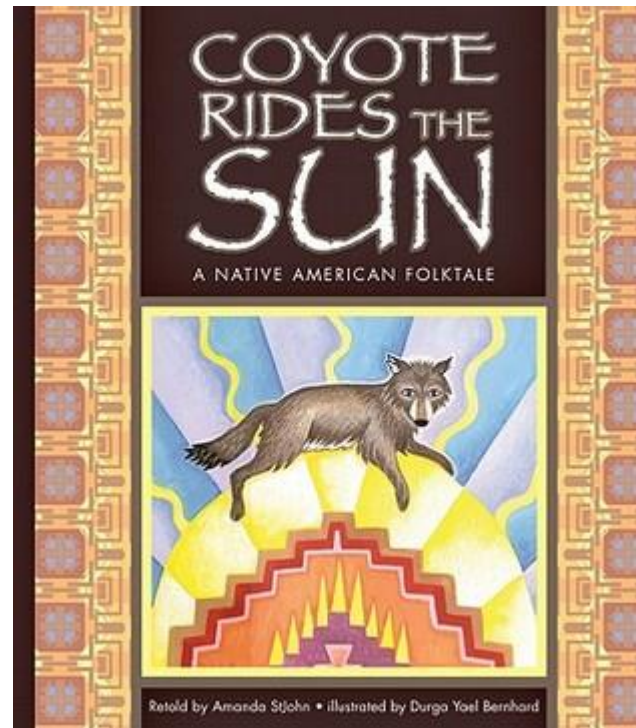
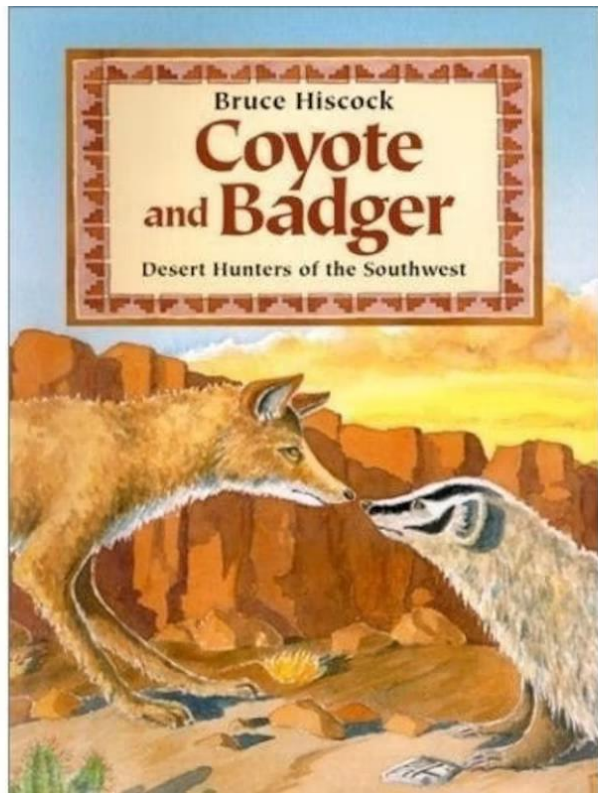
Color lithograph on paper

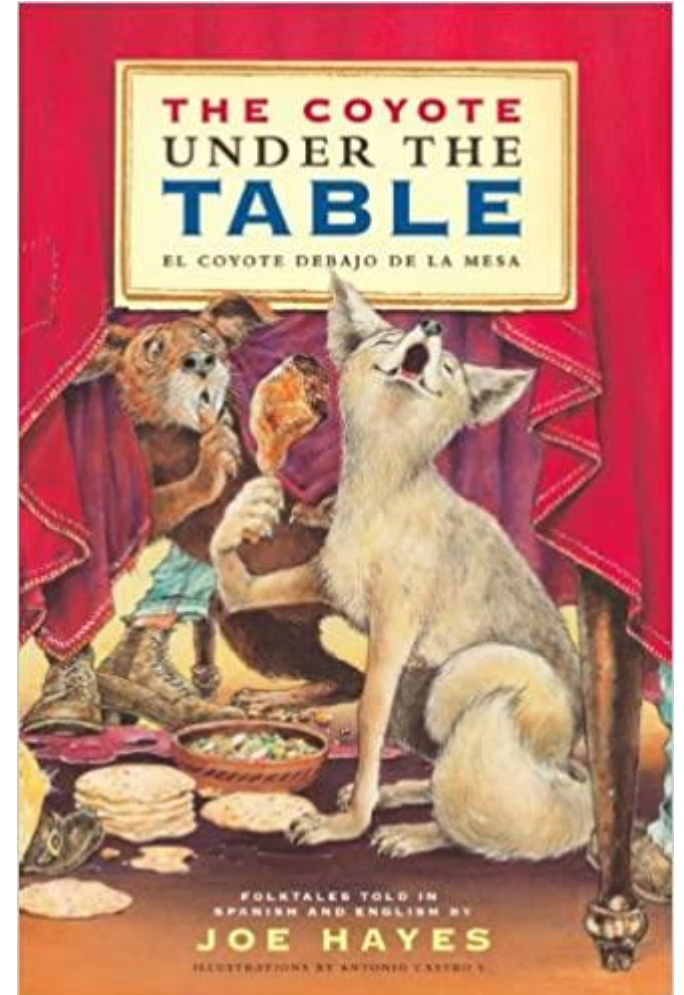
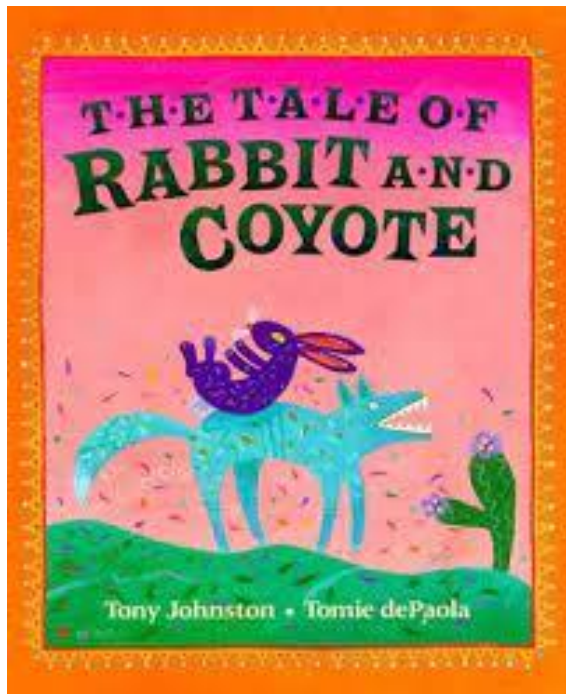
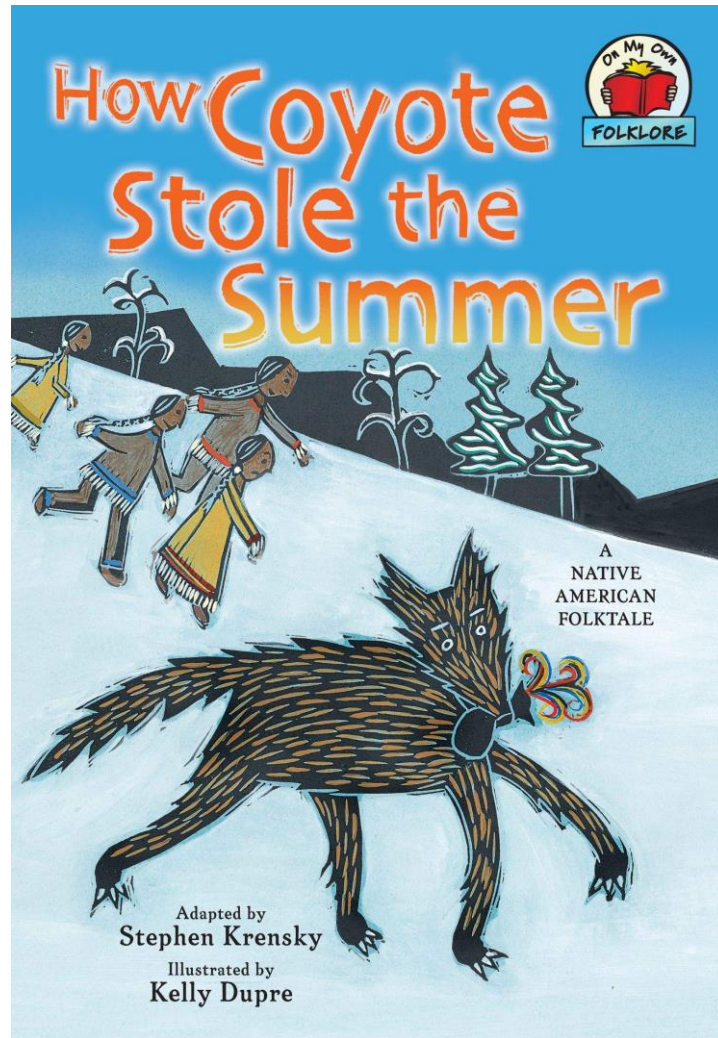
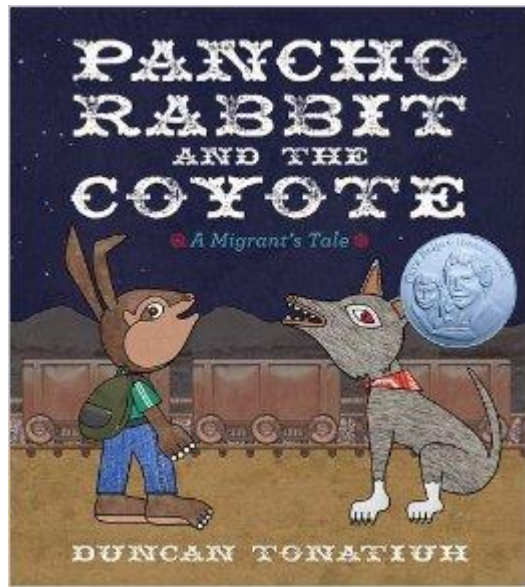
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Friends of the Beach Museum of Art purchase, 2010.27

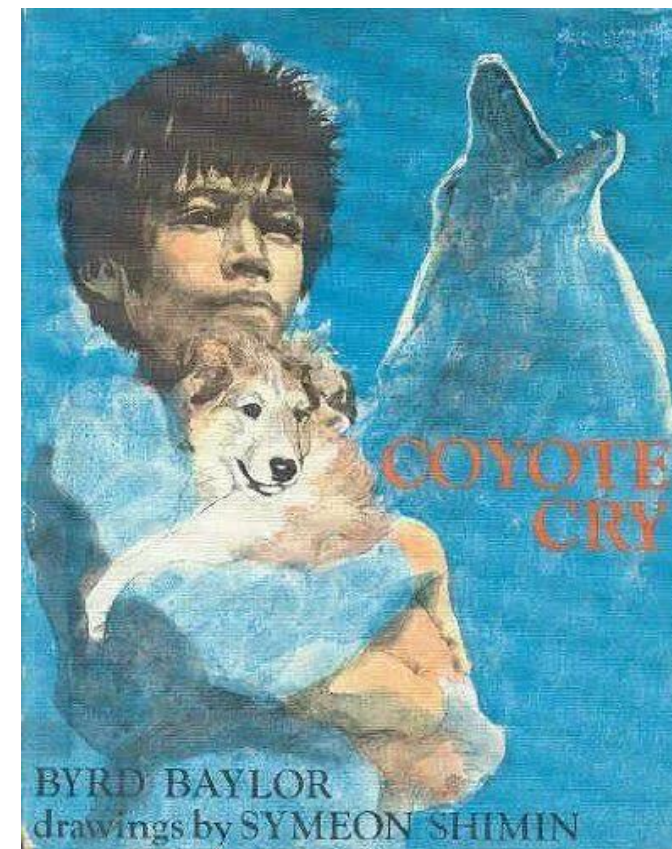
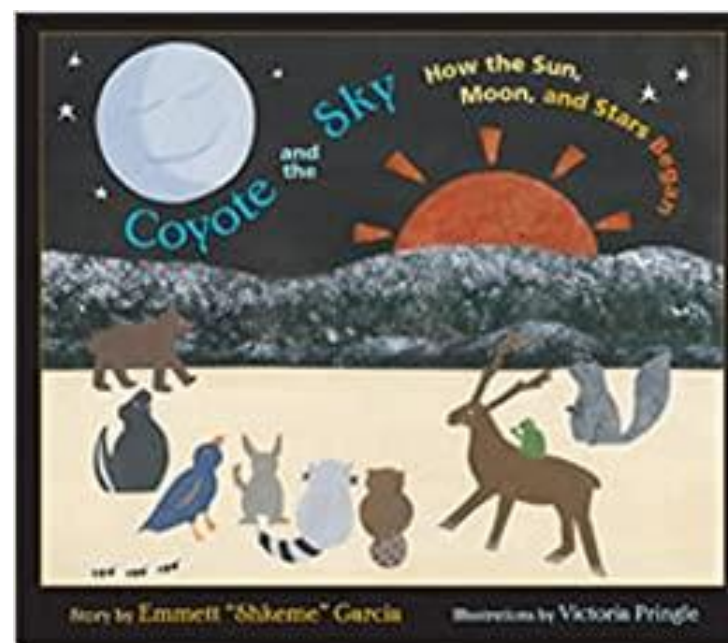
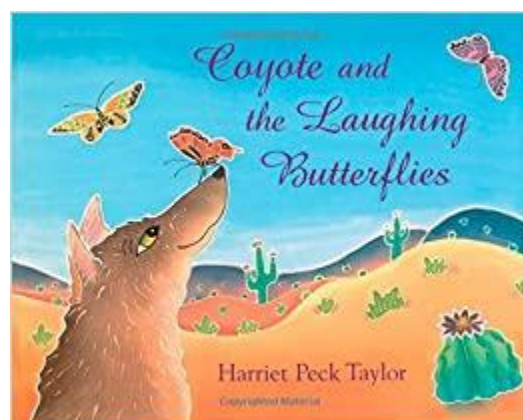
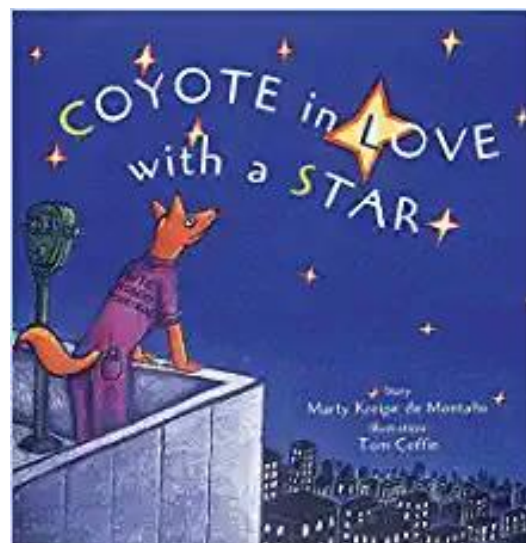
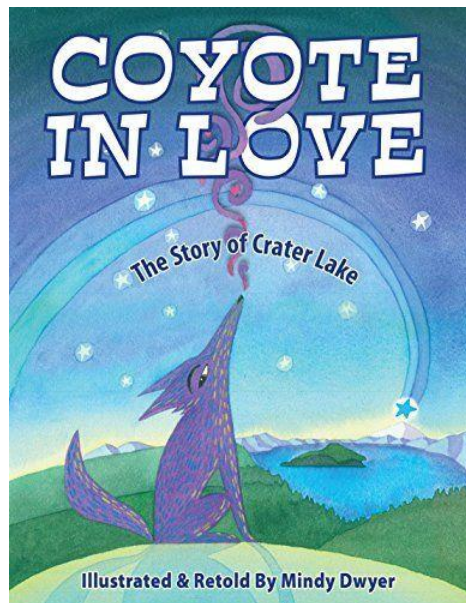


Picture Books









Art Projects

Coyotes howling at the moon are an iconic image. The following stencils can be used in a variety of ways. Tape one down and paint your background around and then pull it away. Or use the stencil to cut out coyotes to add too your background. Coyotes can howl sitting down or standing.



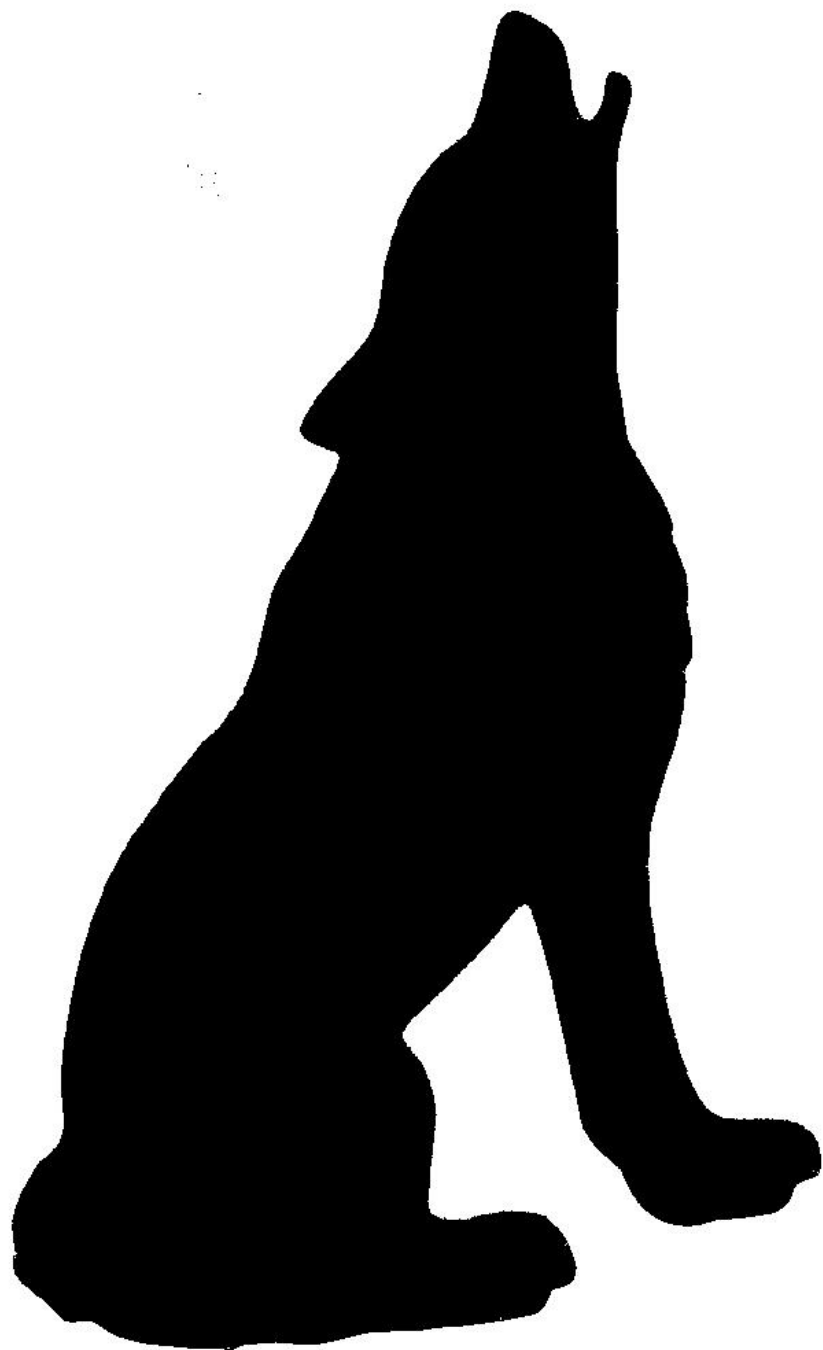
How do coyotes communicate?

Not only do they howl and bark, coyotes "sing" to communicate with members of their pack.



coyote
by: KAJE









Art Ways!

Howling Coyotes & Frolicking Fish

Oaxacan Woodcarvers Fashion a Whimsical World from Wood

Nestled in the valleys of the Sierra Madre del Sur mountains in southern Mexico, not far from the bustle of Oaxaca City, are small rural villages. The people who live there farm the land, raise animals and make art.

In one of these villages, San Martin Tilcajete, about 80 percent of the 1,500 villagers are working as woodcarvers. The tradition of carving began years ago when the poor people of the region made toys out of wood for their children. Over time, some carvers became very skilled and began creating finely crafted pieces. One of the premier carvers in San Martin, Epifanio Fuentes, is known for his beautiful angels. His eldest son, Zeny, is a fourth-generation carver who is also becoming well respected for his work.

Zeny began working with wood when he was 8 years old. Under the guidance of his parents, he learned to carve and paint. Two of his younger brothers have also begun carving. Zeny's wife, mother and four sisters paint the carvings.

Oaxacan woodcarvers use a special type of wood called copal. When the wood is green, it is soft and easy to carve. After it dries, it does not spilt or crack as many other types of wood do. Sensitive to the demand for their raw material and the effect on the environment, the artisans are also involved in reforestation projects.

To begin a carving, the bark is removed from the wood with a machete. The general form of the figure is also carved with a machete, and then a smaller knife is used to shape the con-

tour and create the details. Most carvings are made of several pieces of wood that are joined with small finishing nails.

Carving and assembling a small figure can take from one to several hours. Next, the surface is sanded with several grades of sandpaper. Painting the figure is the final, and the most time-consuming step. Detailed patterns in bright, contrasting colors are typical. Like most Oaxacan woodcarvers, the Fuentes use acrylic paint.

Zeny Fuentes is following in his father's footsteps to make beautiful woodcarvings in the artistic tradition of his village. At the same time, he continues to carve new animals and paint them with different patterns and designs in a way that keeps the art form vital and new.



Oaxacan woodcarver, Zeny Fuentes



CLASSROOM PROJECT

Materials:

- White drawing paper 8 1/2" x 11"
- Pencil
- Bright color markers
- Scissors
- Glue
- Construction paper 8 1/2" x 11"

Create a Drawing of a Whimsical Animal

1. Use a piece of white paper and draw with a pencil an animal large enough to touch three edges of your paper. You can draw your animal in a realistic style or create

one from your imagination.

2. Use colored markers to create interesting patterns on the body of your animal. Be inspired by the examples you see

here! Bright colors and dancing patterns made with lines and shapes will give your animal a whimsical charm. Color it completely.

3. Use a pair of scissors

to cut around the outside edge of your animal.

4. Choose a contrasting sheet of construction paper and glue your animal on it. Display it in a prominent place.

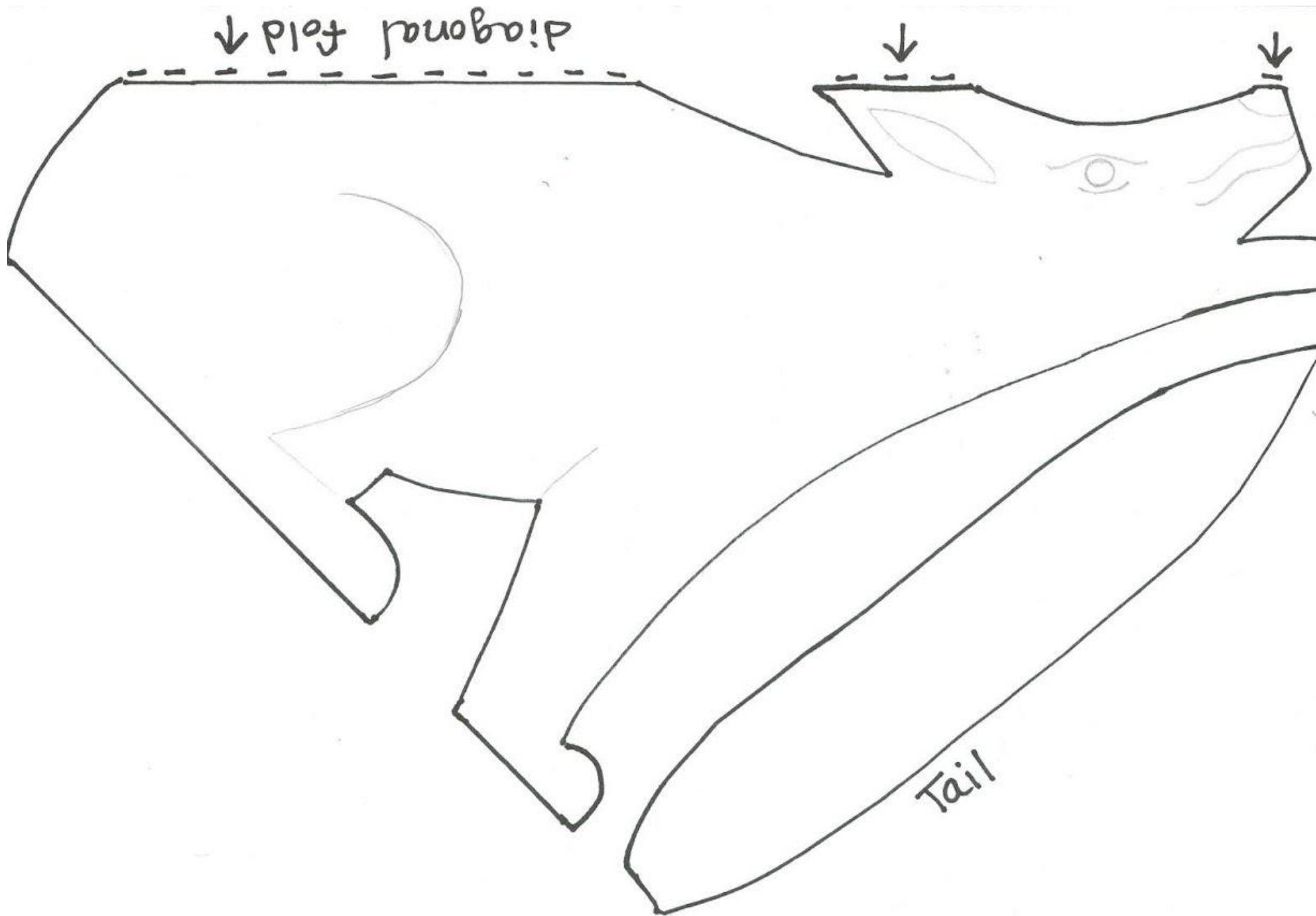
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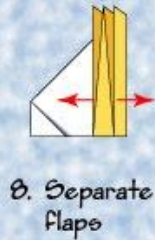
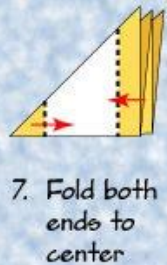
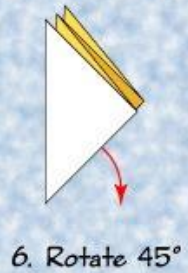
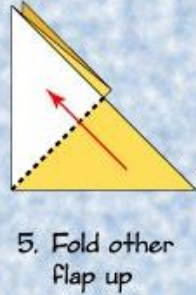
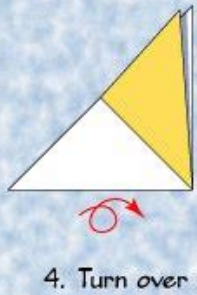
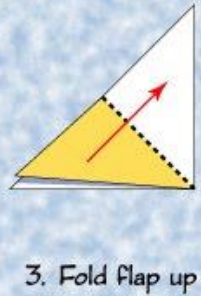
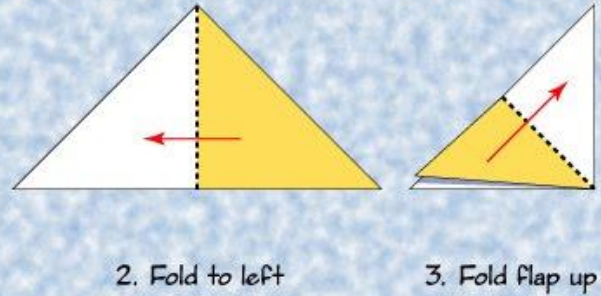
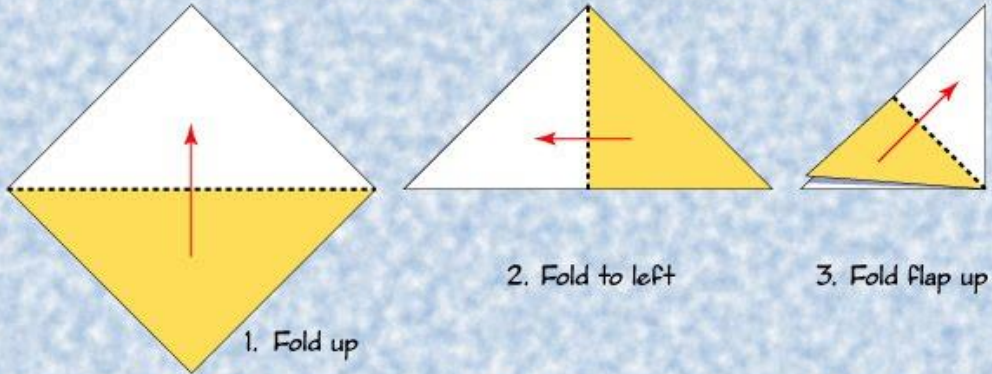




You can use
this diagram
to make your
own Howling
Coyote
Alebrije



Create a Coyote



Origami

