

Write Your Own “Just So” Story!

“Just So” stories are tales that explain **WHY** or **HOW** something is in the world. Many Eastern Woodlands Indian myths are “Just So” stories that explained why things in nature are the way they are. To write your own “Just So” story, use the “chipmunk” story as a guide and think about the following things:

1. What are you trying to explain? (Titles of “Just So” stories often start with “how” or “why.”

2. Who is your main character?

Is it a male or female? Animal or Human?

3. What other characters are there?

4. Where do they live?

5. When do they live? (Most “Just So” stories take place a long time ago.)

6. What is the problem in your story that leads to the thing you are explaining?

7. How do we see this thing today?

8. Is there anything else you would like to add?

