

Task:

Below is the skeleton of the story you will be telling in the workshop.
Before the workshop, read through the skeleton several times so you know what happens. (It will help if you read this aloud.)

Then put the text away and say the skeleton again. Do this aloud.
(It will help if you have a real person to tell this to. If not, imagine someone – and tell them.)

Don't be surprised if *your* story is different to *mine* – this is what a storyteller does.

You now know the story!

Tortoise Called “All of You” (Nigerian folk tale)

Famine, all animals hungry. Decided to send message to heaven, ask God for food.

Birds: we can fly there, but not very good at talking.

Tortoise (proud of his shiny, smooth shell, proud of his cleverness): I can do it – I am one to get food from God!

Animals: Please do – you are our only hope!

Tortoise: But one condition: names of everyone must change. From now on, my name is “All of You”. Name of everyone else is “All of Us”. So do you agree?

Other animals puzzled, but agree.

Birds gave tortoise wings, flew with him to heaven.

God agrees to send food.

Tortoise: But who is the food for?

God: The food is for all of you!

Birds: But that is not fair! What about All of Us?

God: Not fair? What do you mean?

Birds: But we'll go hungry.

God (angry): **Listen: that food is for all of you!** – And God disappeared.

Tortoise: Ha, ha! You heard – God said food is for All of You. He gave it to me!

Birds so angry, pull wings off tortoise. Leave him and start flying back to earth.

Tortoise looks down: Hey! Tell my friend Elephant he can have some of my food if he gathers everything **soft** into a big pile.

Birds tell Elephant to gather everything **hard** into a pile.

Tortoise sees pile of *something* growing. Jumps from heaven – and lands on rocks which crack his shell.

And every tortoise's shell has been cracked ever since.