



Monkey & Toucan

(A Puppet Play)

MONKEY

Toucan, how did you get such a beautiful beak? There are so many colors on it! Look, there's yellow and blue and purple and orange...

TOUCAN

Why, thank you for noticing, Monkey. There is a story about those colors.

MONKEY

Tell me the story! Please, please?

TOUCAN

Ok, ok. Well, a long time ago My great grandmother, who was my grand mother's mother was flying around in the jungle one morning after a fresh rain. She noticed a beautiful rainbow glistening in the sunlight and she flew up very, very high and snapped off a part of it with her beak. She flew back to her nest and gave parts of it to her chicks and they splashed the colors all over their beaks painting them with beautiful colors.

MONKEY

Can I touch it?

TOUCAN

Well, ok, but be gentle
(Monkey touches beak)



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TOUCAN

Snap! (Toucan snaps beak, Monkey laughs)

MONKEY

Ahh! ha!ha!ha!

TOUCAN

Did I scare you?

MONKEY

Only a little.

TOUCAN

But Monkey you look sad. What's wrong?

MONKEY

Toucan, I do not have a beak or rainbow colors. I wish I had a beak. My great grandmother couldn't fly.

TOUCAN

That is true Monkey, but don't be sad. Your great grandmother did something else very special.

MONKEY

She did?

TOUCAN

Yes, because her children loved to play.



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MONKEY

Like me! I love to play!

TOUCAN

Yes, Monkey like you. And they were very curious and climbed everywhere and they were very difficult for her to keep track of. She had 5 baby monkeys, running everywhere, climbing trees and swinging on vines.

MONKEY

I can swing on vines too! And I climb trees so I can get the tastiest leaves and fruits!

TOUCAN

Yes! You do! But your great grandmother had a tough time catching all of her baby monkeys to put them to sleep at night. She became very fast and very strong, but with all 5 of them, one was always getting away.

MONKEY

Why?

TOUCAN

Well, she could catch one with each hand, and her feet were like hands too.

MONKEY

Yes! I can hold things with my feet - seeds and nuts and branches!



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TOUCAN

Yes, you can, but with two hands and two feet, she could
only hold four monkey babies.

MONKEY

Well, what did she do?

TOUCAN

She learned how to use her tail like another arm to catch
and hold the fifth baby!

MONKEY

Yes! And now I can hold things with my tail too! I can
swing on branches from my tail!

I guess I had a really smart great grandma too!