

It was late evening and the sun had only just gone down. The Coojarra people from the tiny island of Sunia sat in a circle, surrounding a big, warm fire. The elder of the tribe was an old man whose children and grandchildren sat with him. The youngest grandchild was a little girl who asked, "Grandfather, could you please tell us the story of when and how the universe was created?"

He looked at her with a look of great concentration. "Please Grandfather," all of the grandchildren chorused. "Okay. I suppose I can tell you the story," answered the old man. He stood up and after a short pause he began. "The whole universe was dark except for the little light coming from the fire of the dinosaurs and volcanoes on the only thing in the universe, Earth. There were no suns, stars, moons or galaxies. Earth was only inhabited by dinosaurs, reptiles and plants. There were two kinds of dinosaurs, fire breathing dinosaurs and cold, mist breathing dinosaurs. The fire breathing dinosaurs had skin coverings coloured in warm colours such as reds, oranges and yellows. The mist breathing dinosaurs were coloured in more gentle colours like greens, blues and purples. Both kinds of dinosaurs were always fighting, verbally and physically. They both had a commander, the Fata for the fire breathing dinosaurs and the Ruchia for the mist breathing dinosaurs.

One day Fata said to Ruchia, "Why do you breathe mist? It makes the planet really cold and wet. It is so much superior to breathe fire than cold mist."

Ruchia took huge offence to this and snapped back, "Breathing mist is not inferior! It helps things to grow with its' moistness. Breathing fire is so stupid because it burns anything it touches and it makes everything on the planet sweat like a pig. I think breathing fire is stupid and it is so much cooler to breathe cool mist."

Fata did not like Ruchias' response. He blew a massive flame, scorching Ruchias' face. This meant war! All of the dinosaurs on the planet started fighting with each other. Fata and Ruchia fought a one-on-one battle and did everything in their power to weaken their opponent.

After a fortnight of fighting, the opposing armies had shrunk in numbers from all of the fighting. Fata and Ruchia were also getting weaker from fighting each other. Fata blew one more breath of fire at Ruchias' face and Ruchia collapsed. He was so exhausted he embraced death. Fata too fell to the ground, as all of his energy had run out. He soon followed his adversary into the afterlife. Both armies froze as they watched their commanders' fall to the ground dying. Both armies were distraught about their commanders dying and wanted to find a way to commemorate their sacrifice.

Both teams decided to have a truce and vowed to never, ever fight again. They also decided to become one group and wanted to commemorate their commanders together. Dinosaurs from all over the world thought and thought and thought of how

they could possibly find a way to commemorate how their leaders died in what started as a silly, little argument and to remind them to never fight again.

Then, one day, a dinosaur thought up an idea that no one else had even come close to emulating. His name was Seno. Seno ran as fast as he could to a meeting place that was really flat. Luckily, Seno had a really loud voice so he could get the attention of many dinosaurs even those many kilometres away, "Hey! Everyone, I have an idea for the commemoration of our commanders. Come here as soon as you can!"

Dinosaurs converged from all directions and within minutes, the meeting place was full of dinosaurs. "I have an idea for the commemoration of our commanders as I have all ready told you. All of the fire breathing dinosaurs can make a massive ball of fire, and place it high in the sky so that we have sunlight for half of the day. That will help us remember Fata. To remember Ruchia, all of the cold, mist blowing dinosaurs can make a huge ball of mist and place it high in the sky. It will be there for the other half of the day." There was silence. No one dared to speak. After a short while, a dinosaur started to stomp his feet on the spot (this was how the dinosaurs clapped). Another joined in. The stomping grew louder, and louder, and louder until all of the dinosaurs at the meeting were stomping as hard as they could. It was official. To commemorate the commanders from both sides, the fire breathing dinosaurs would make a massive ball of fire and place it in the sky, and the mist breathing dinosaurs would make a huge ball of mist and place it in the sky.

Seno began again, "Everyone," he waited for silence amongst the crowd, "We shall meet here in 10,000 steps (there was no such thing as time as there was no sun or moon to use as a clock as we know it. Dinosaurs used how many steps that it would take to get from one place to another). Tell everyone you come across about the arrangement and tell them to come along too."

The meeting ended.

There was a lot of commotion as dinosaurs communicated the arrangement throughout the land. All looked forward to helping make these enormous balls.

Once the first few dinosaurs started to come back to the meeting place, dinosaurs started flocking in from all directions. There were ten times as many dinosaurs at the second meeting. Seno not only had a really loud voice but he also had a very long neck so most dinosaurs could see and hear him no matter where they were standing. He divided the dinosaurs into their two groups. Seno shouted, "Everyone form a circle with your group. On the count of three start blowing towards the middle of your circle upwards towards the sky. 1...2...3... blow everyone."

Everyone started to blow. The balls grew bigger, and bigger, and bigger until... "Stop everyone!" shouted Seno, "The balls are big enough. I will through them into the sky

now.”

He grabbed the flaming ball of fire and threw it into the sky. All of the dinosaurs could see everything clearly now. Before the ball of fire, the dinosaurs relied on their other senses to find food. As the flaming ball of fire started to go down, Seno grabbed the ball of mist and threw it into the sky. Now there was a tiny bit of light to see where the dinosaurs were walking and they knew when to sleep and get up. More importantly, though, the dinosaurs could tell the time more precisely.

Time went by and the truce held. The two groups never fought again. When the dinosaurs that helped with the making of the balls died, they turned into stars, meteorites or planets. The fire breathing dragons turned into stars, and the mist breathing dinosaurs turned into meteorites that would occasionally land on the Earth. When meteorites did hit the Earth, they would make craters, mountains and rivers depending on their size and power.” The old man finished and all of the grandchildren stomped their feet like the dinosaurs to say thank you. “Thankyou Grandfather,” said the youngest grandchild. “You’re very welcome dear child,” he said, “Now, everyone go to bed.”