

5. MOTHER EARTH

This story...why do Native Americans call this planet Mother Earth?

Like a Mother she provides all the food needed to sustain our life.

She provides us with the water to nourish our thirst...air for us to breath.

She replenishes the soil, she replenishes the rivers, creeks, oceans and seas.

She teaches all of us how to survive.

She teaches all of us, the philosophies of the four seasons, the four directions, about our relatives of the skies, the stars, the moon and the home of our birth.

She partners with Grandmother Moon to direct the meaning of our existence.

She weeps when we are in pain, and showers us with the newborns, as we celebrate the cycle of life.

She gives us sage, to smudge our bodies.

Sweetgrass for our baskets.

Juniper cedar for our medicinal teas.

And for our lodges.

No other two words define her duties – she is our Mother.

Mother Earth.

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