

The Legend of Why the Iguana has a Double Tongue

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Many, many years ago in a deep and dark cave in the dense jungle of Guam, there lived an iguana. This iguana's mother was very proud of him. After all, he was a very strong and handsome iguana. After many months of motherly care and teaching, he was allowed to go into the jungle to look for some bird eggs, a great delicacy for any iguana. While the young iguana was walking in the jungle one day, he heard the voice of a mocking bird and said, "Hello! Where are you?" The mocking bird, however, flew away without answering. With that disappointment, the young, handsome iguana continued on his merry way, deeper into the jungle. It wasn't long before he met the bird known as the rail. After becoming friends, the iguana and the rail thought that what they needed was more color on their skin. They both decided that the rail would paint the iguana first. When the rail had finished painting the iguana with some bright new colors, the iguana was very pleased with his new appearance. He sang loud and long in his very melodious voice. The iguana then took the same paint brush that he was painted with and splattered the rail with spots. Becoming very angry, the rail said, "Because of this trick that you have played on me, your very pretty voice will become harsh and ugly." The rail pursued the iguana and struck him on the tongue, causing it to split into two parts. This is why the iguana, to this very day, has a forked tongue and the rail has spots all over his body.