

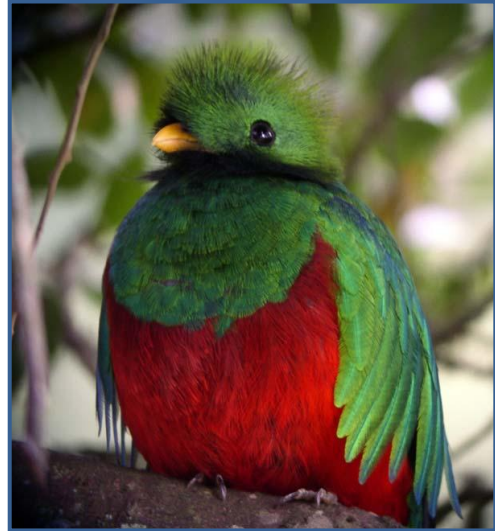
Owl and the Quetzal

According to an Aztec folk tale from long ago, a small fire quickly grew out of control and began to consume the forest.

As the fire spread, the animals and humans began to flee. An owl making his escape noticed a small quetzal (a bird with brilliant green and red feathers, native to Central and South America) constantly flying back and forth between the river and a section of the burning forest.

“Are you crazy?” the owl asked. “The forest is burning; you must leave at once.”

The bird ignored the owl’s warning and returned to the river, where he gathered a few drops of water in his beak before flying over to the brush to release the droplets on the flames.



The owl flew down and met the quetzal bird at the water’s edge. “What are you doing?”

“The best I can with what I have,” the bird replied as it gathered another few droplets of water in his tiny beak and returned to the flaming brush.

Inspired by the quetzal’s courage and determination, the owl began to help. Soon, other animals and even humans joined them, and the great fire was conquered.

The lesson: Doing the best you can with the resources available to you can have a huge impact on even the most dire circumstances.

– Beecher Hunter