

YAMINDA



The Rainbow Serpent of ancient Aboriginal Mythology is believed to be the world's oldest religious symbol. Indigenous Australians believe the serpent descended from the stars as the creator of life and protector of the land and its people. Her former home in the night sky is still visible as a dark streak in the Milky Way.

The creator is known to the aboriginal people by many names. In North Queensland, she is Yaminda and inhabits the water, life's most precious resource. Yaminda reveals herself as a rainbow as she moves across the earth, shaping landscapes, naming places and creating the life giving rains. She protects the land and its people, but can also wreak revenge if the environment is disrespected. Yaminda is symbolic of both the creative power and destructive abilities of nature.

The Ngaro people of the Whitsundays believe these islands were created when Yaminda chose this beautiful stretch of Queensland to lay her eggs, close to the shore. They know when the rains pass; Yaminda will appear as a rainbow, bridging Heaven and Earth as she watches over this special part of Australia.