

*animal stories from*  
**MONKEY  
TALES**  
*Indian Folklore*

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**EMESCO**

## The Monkeys and the Dove

On a cold winter's day, when all the animals were in their homes, some monkeys were enjoying themselves in the forest. They had not a care in the world.

"Hey! Isn't it a bit cold?" said one of them suddenly.

"Yes, let's make a fire," replied his friend.

So the monkeys immediately gathered a pile of twigs. Now came the problem. How were they going to light the fire?

"Hey, how about using that bug there? We can light the twigs with it," one monkey suggested, pointing to a firefly that was flying about.

All the other monkeys were delighted with this brilliant idea. Soon, they had caught the bright insect.

One of the monkeys held the firefly close to the twigs and all his mates blew vigorously at it. However hard the monkeys tried, the twigs just didn't catch fire. But the stubborn creatures kept on blowing at the firefly.

A dove was watching the monkeys trying to light the fire. She felt sorry for them.

"Brother Monkeys," she called out to them. "You are never going to light a fire that way. That insect does not produce heat, it just glows."

"Shut up, you stupid bird. Mind your own business or we'll kill you," yelled the angry monkeys in reply.

In spite of their threat, the dove tried to make the monkeys stop, and met with a quick end.

