

Rainbow Passage

When the sunlight strikes raindrops in the atmosphere, they act like a prism and form a rainbow. The rainbow is a division of white light into various beautiful colors. These take the shape of a long round arch, with its path towering above, and its two extremities apparently beyond the horizon.

There is, according to legend, a boiling pot of gold at the one end. People look, but no human ever finds it. When a man looks for something beyond his reach, his friends say he is looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Throughout the centuries people have explained the rainbow in various ways. Nations have accepted it as a miracle without physical explanation.

For certain groups it was taken that there would be no more general floods. The Norsemen considered the rainbow as a bridge over which the Gods passed from earth to their dwelling in the sky. Aristotle thought that the rainbow was caused by reflection of the sun's rays by the rain.

The difference is the rainbow depends considerably upon the size of the water drops, and the width of the colored band increases as the size of the drops increases.