

# LI'L TOOT AND HIS MAGIC FLUTE

*An original story created by Gerald R. Gloade*

Once upon a time there was a young bear running through the woods. He stumbled upon an arrowhead. Not knowing what it was, he took it to his grandfather and asked him about it. Grandfather Bear told the young one that it was a tool of the L'nuk (people). Grandfather knew this because a long time ago he had helped a group of L'nuk who were in trouble. In return for this help, the L'nuk gave Grandfather the flute in gratitude. He told Li'l Toot that the flute was very special because it was made from the wood of a tree that had been struck by lightning.

When the young bear woke the next day, he found the flute that his grandfather had told him about lying next to him along with the arrowhead he had found. The arrowhead had been fashioned into a necklace. As the young bear became more and more skilled at playing the flute, people began to name him Li'l Toot.

The more Li'l Toot played his flute, the more powerful the flute became. In time, Li'l Toot was able to play tunes that sounded like particular places across Mi'kma'ki (the Mi'kmaw homeland). If he played the sound of the water falls at Mary Ann Falls, he would be transported there. If he played the sound of tide and winds at Cape d'Or, he would be transported there. In this way he was able to travel to many of the important cultural sites across Mi'kma'ki.



*We look forward to sharing the adventures of Li'l Toot in the years to come!*