Coyote and the Dancing Stars

Many Moons ago, coyote was a great dancer. More than anything else, Coyote loved to dance. More than fishing, more than hunting, and more than running through the hills, Coyote loved to dance. At night, Coyote looked up into the sky and watched the stars dancing.

“I should like to dance with the stars,” thought Coyote. One night Coyote climbed to the top of the highest hill and saw the stars.

“I want to dance with you,” Coyote called out to the stars, but the stars only laughed. “But I am a great dancer!”

The stars laughed again. “How can we dance with you if we’re up in the sky and you are down on the earth?”

“Let me dance with you,” Coyote cried.

Suddenly, the North Star had an idea! “I will throw this rope down to earth and pull the coyote up into the sky. Help me pull coyote up into the sky!” the North Star called to the other stars.

Coyote caught the rope and the stars pulled him up into the sky. They began dancing together. Soon coyote grew tired.

“I want to stop!” Coyote called out.

But, the stars danced faster and faster. Coyote tried to climb on the back of one of the stars, but his paw slipped and he fell to the earth instead and made a great hole in the ground. To this day, whenever you see a shooting star, it is really Coyote falling to the earth!

The Story Ends Here.
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Answer the following questions:

1. What did Coyote want to do with the stars?
2. Why did the stars not want him to dance?
3. What did Little Star agree to do with Coyote?
4. What happened after Coyote danced for a long time?
5. Why could Little Star not let Coyote go back to Earth?
6. What did Coyote do?
7. What happened to Coyote?
8. According to the story, what makes the streaking light of meteors?
9. What are the coyotes asking for today when they howl?

Now that you have read a myth, it is your turn to write one. On a separate sheet of paper, write a myth explaining how meteors were put into the sky. Use the story you read as a model. One or two sentences will not be acceptable.