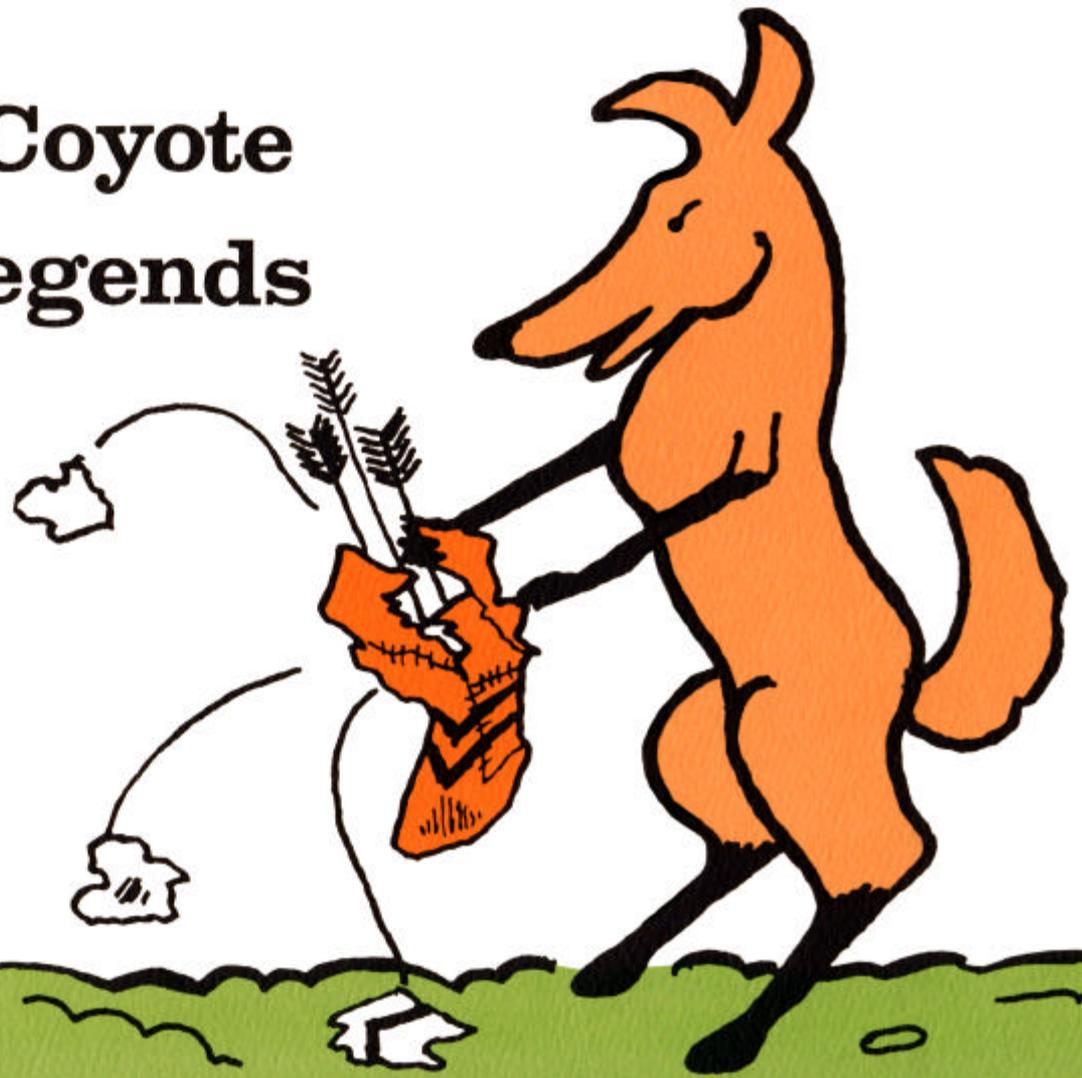




Tales of Coyote and Other Legends

The Indian Reading Series



THE INDIAN READING SERIES: Stories and Legends of the Northwest is a collection of authentic material cooperatively developed by Indian people from twelve reservations. Development activities are guided by a Policy Board which represents the Indian community of the Pacific Northwest. The Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program Policy Board members are:

- Warren Clements — Warm Springs
Chairman
- Morrie Jimenez — Klamath
- Joan Kennerly — Blackfeet
- Walter Moffett — Nez Perce
- Emmett Oliver — Quinault
- Bob Parsley — Chippewa
- Lloyd Smith — Warm Springs
- Max Snow
- Jeanne Thomas — Yakima



THE INDIAN READING SERIES:
Stories and Legends of the Northwest

Tales of Coyote and Other Legends

Level I Book 10

By members of the Warm Springs
Reservation Committee

Carol Allison, *Illustrator*

Nita Curtis, *Consultant*

William Frank, *Illustrator*

Rena Greene

Verbena Greene, *Coordinator*

Viola Kalama

Isabelle Keo

Stella McKinley

Matilda Mitchell

Debbie Smith, *Illustrator*

Ada Sooksoit

Christine Tom

Felix Wallulatum

Wilson Wewa

Illustrated by Carol Allison

Joseph Coburn, Director

Pacific Northwest Indian Program

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

Developed by the Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, 710 Southwest Second Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204

Copyright © 1977 by The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
All rights reserved.

The work upon which this publication is based was performed pursuant to Contract
No. 400-76-0048, with the Educational Equity Group/Multicultural/Bilingual Division
of the National Institute of Education. It does not, however, necessarily reflect the
views of that agency.

This publication is not printed at the expense of the Federal Government.

Published by Educational Systems, Inc., 2360 Southwest 170th Street, Beaverton, Oregon 97005

Printed and bound in the United States of America

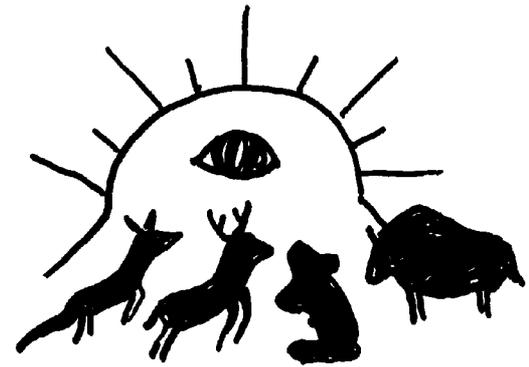
TABLE OF CONTENTS

PEACE	1
THE SUCKER AND THE EEL ...	7
COYOTE, DEER, OBSIDIAN AND ROCK	11
FIRE AND FROG	17
COYOTE AND THE FISHERS ...	23

PEACE

When the Great Spirit made the earth animals,
he told them they must always be friends.

“You must help each other
and live together as good friends.
I will send Peace, the beautiful spirit,
to dwell in your hearts.”

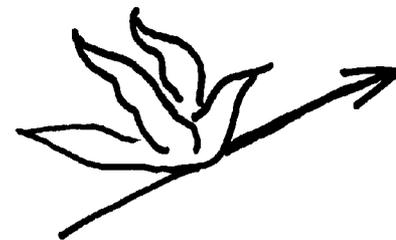


Everyone was happy for awhile,
but soon the earth animals forgot
to be good and kind and helpful.

They began to brag
and make fun of others
and to quarrel.



Then one day
the beautiful Peace Spirit
flew away.

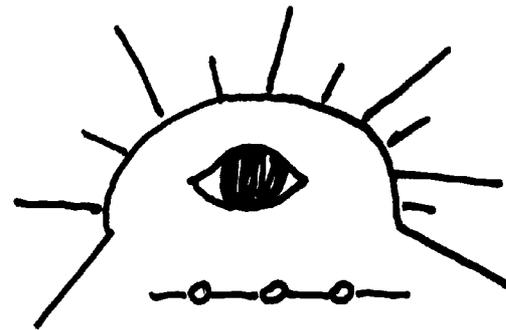


When the Peace Spirit was gone,
there were many earth animals
who were sad.

Soon fear came into their hearts.
They asked the Great Spirit to show them
how they could find Peace once more.



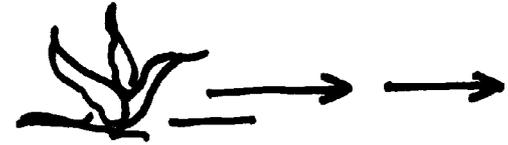
“Peace can be found
after many moons of searching.
You will have to change your ways
and boast no more.
Learn to be kind and helpful,”
the Great Spirit told them.



“We will find Peace,”
said Crane and Heron.
“We are strong and can fly
to the edge of the land.”

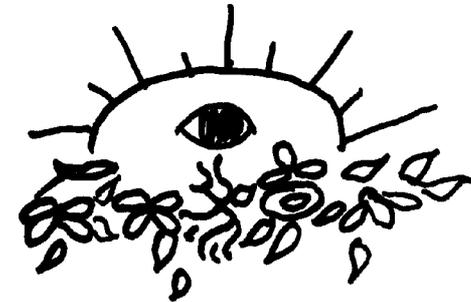


“You will never find the Peace Spirit
for you are too greedy.
You will stop at the river to catch fish
and eat the tadpoles,” said the Great Spirit.



“Let me find Peace,” said Hummingbird.
“I fly swiftly and never rest.”

“You will never find Peace,”
said the Great Spirit kindly.
“You are too flighty,
and the beautiful flowers
will make you forget your mission.”



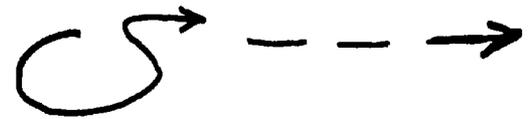
When Crow said he would go,
the earth animals laughed.
“Crow is too noisy and boastful.
He will only frighten Peace further away.”



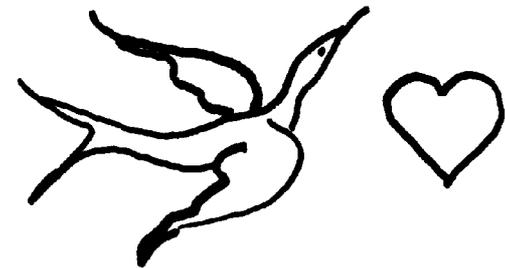
“You must all go together,”
said the Great Spirit.

“You need Bear, who is strong and tireless.
You need Thrush, whose song brings
cheer and happiness.

It will be a long, hard journey,
and none of you can rest on the trail.”



“Peace is a happy Spirit
who will live only with kindness,
thoughtfulness and understanding.”



“When you speak with crooked tongues
and angry hearts,
you frighten Peace away.
But if you speak straight and true,
Peace will come again
to dwell in your hearts.”



THE SUCKER
AND
THE EEL

One day Sucker and Eel
were having a gambling game.
Sucker was very lucky at gambling that day,
and Eel was very unlucky.
The two of them played their game
until night.



When they decided to stop,
Sucker had won all of Eel's fine furs,
all of his shell wampum
and all of his best baskets.
Sucker had even won Eel's house.
Eel was very sad.



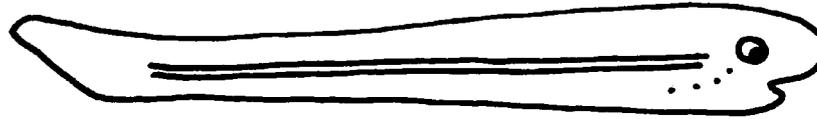
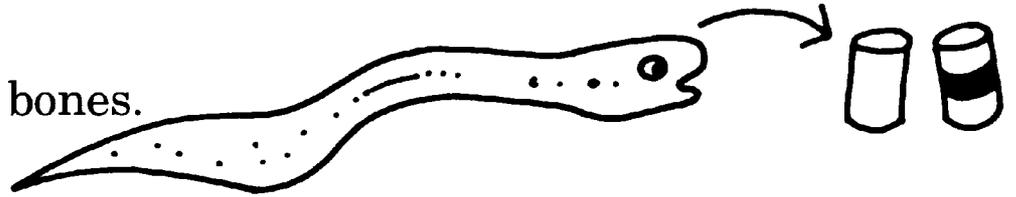
Eel sat thinking for a long time.

Finally he said,

“Sucker, I’m going to play
one more game and bet my bones.

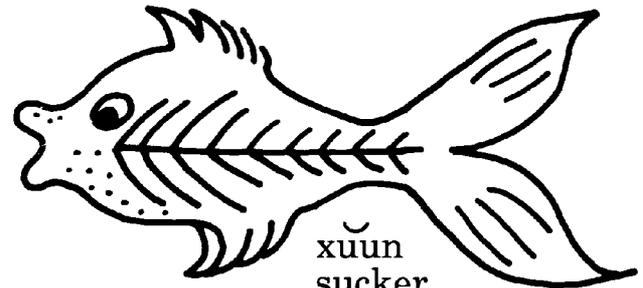
I’m going to win this game!”

So they played, and as usual, Sucker won!



asm̃
eel

That is why today
the sucker has many, many bones,
and the eel has only one.

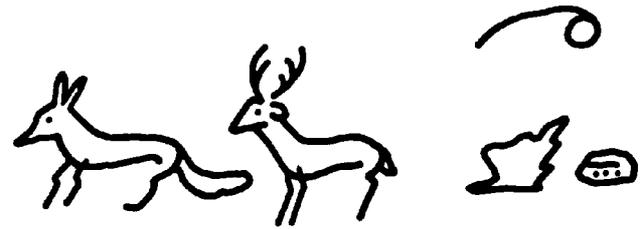


xũun
sucker

COYOTE,
DEER,
OBSIDIAN
AND
ROCK

A Paiute Legend

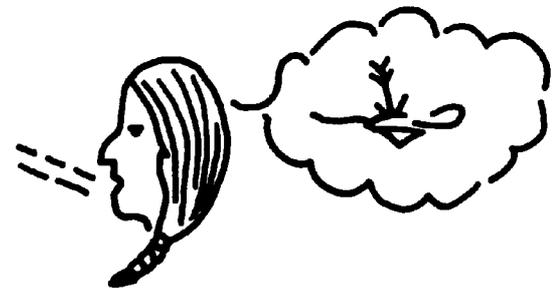
Long ago there were four good friends.
They were Coyote, Deer, Obsidian and Rock.
They were going to travel to the mountains
because they knew that was where
they had to go to get their power.
They were all going to go at the same time.



As the four friends
were on their way to the mountains,
the Great Spirit saw
they were going in a group.
The Great Spirit didn't want them
to go as a group at the same time.
So he made it get dark when they were
halfway up the mountain.



They stopped to rest for the night.
Before they went to sleep one said,
"We will dream about one another
and may not be friends again."



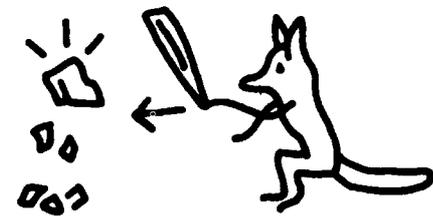
The next day, Obsidian woke up and said,
“I dreamed that I flew and killed Deer.”



Rock then spoke, “I dreamed that I hit Coyote
and knocked him down.”



Coyote became angry and picked up a stick.
He broke Rock to pieces.
Coyote said, “I dreamed that I broke Rock
like this.”



That is how these things came to be.
That is why the Indians killed deer
with obsidian arrows.

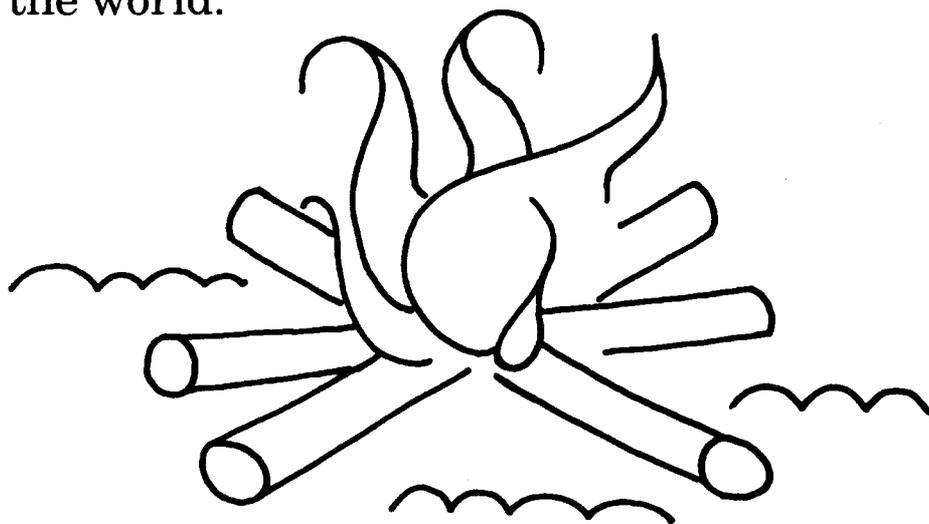


And that is why if you see a coyote
and raise your hands, he runs,
for he thinks you have a rock.

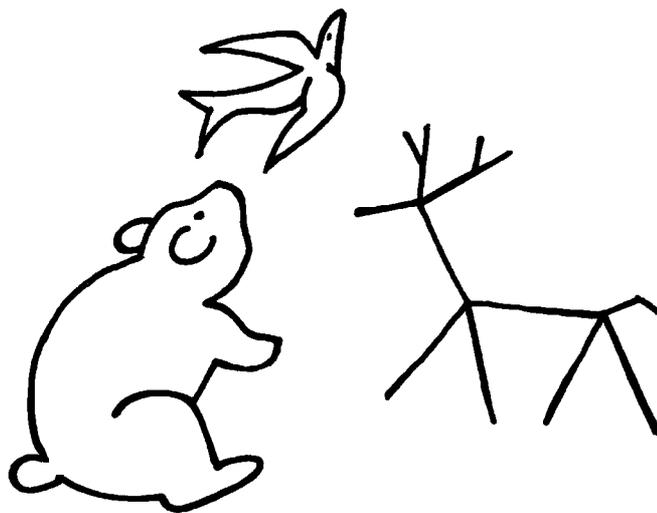


FIRE AND FROG

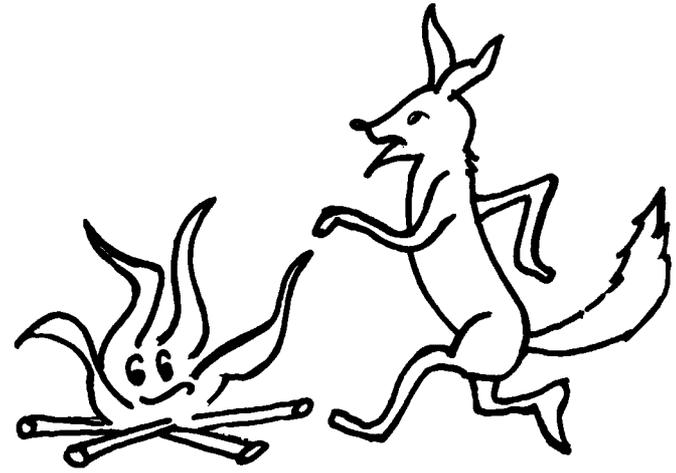
Long ago there was just one fire in the world.
This fire was very stingy.
He did not want any other fires.



All the birds and animals got together
and said there should be other fires
so they could cook and keep warm
when they went to other places.



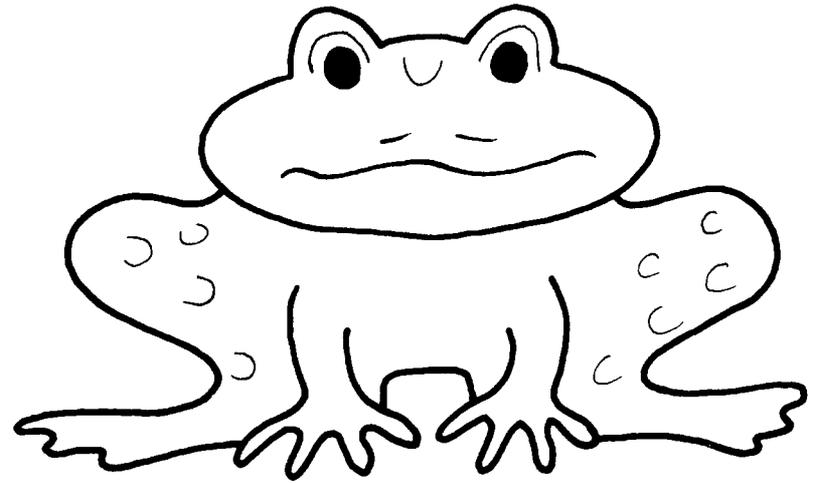
Coyote said, "I will get some of that fire."
And he went to visit Fire.



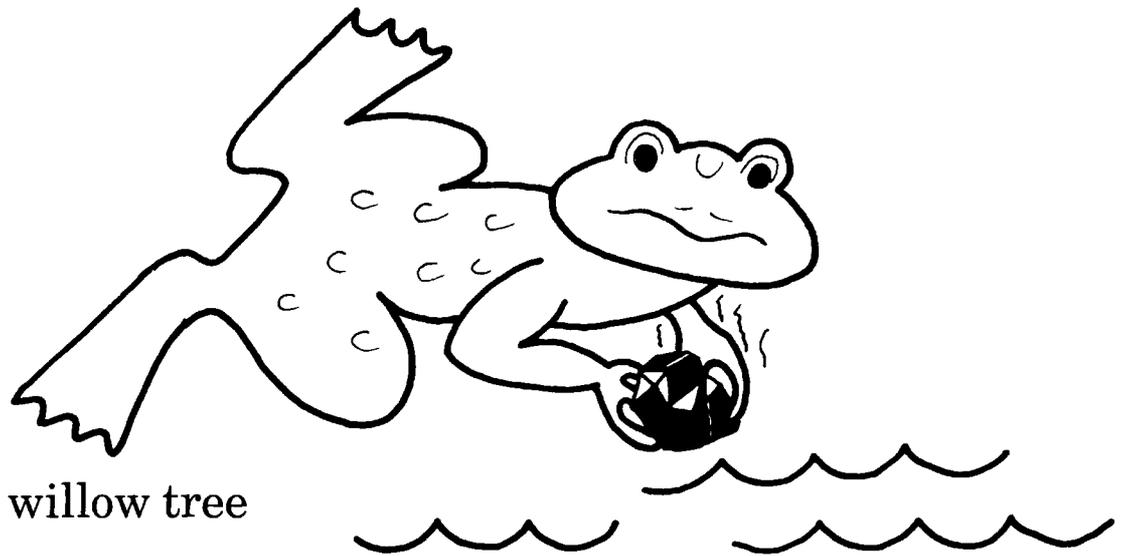
When Coyote was visiting Fire,
he stole a live coal
and ran off with it between his toes.
Each of the other animals
then went to visit Fire
and took a live coal
and ran away with it.



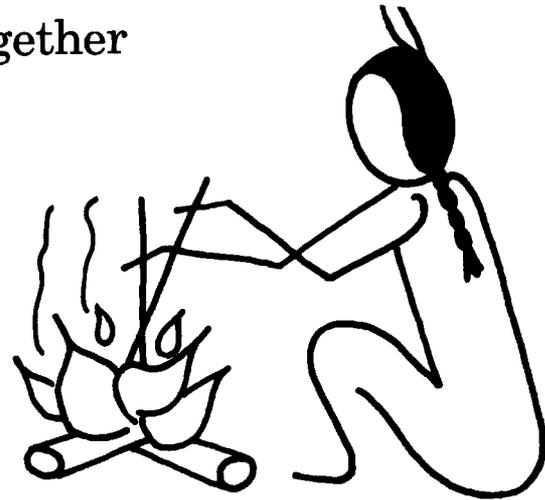
The last to carry a live coal was Frog.



He jumped into the water
and into the roots of a willow tree
with the coal.



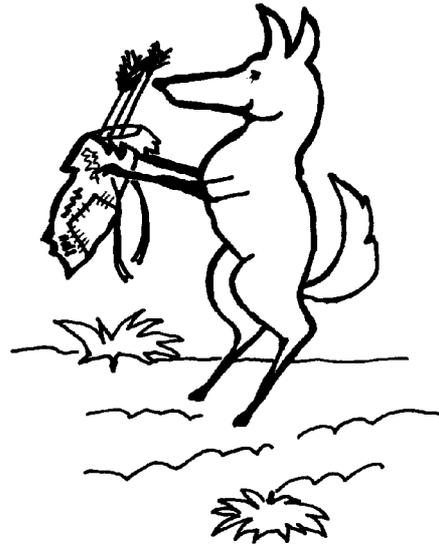
Ever since that time,
Indians have rubbed dry willow sticks together
to make a fire.



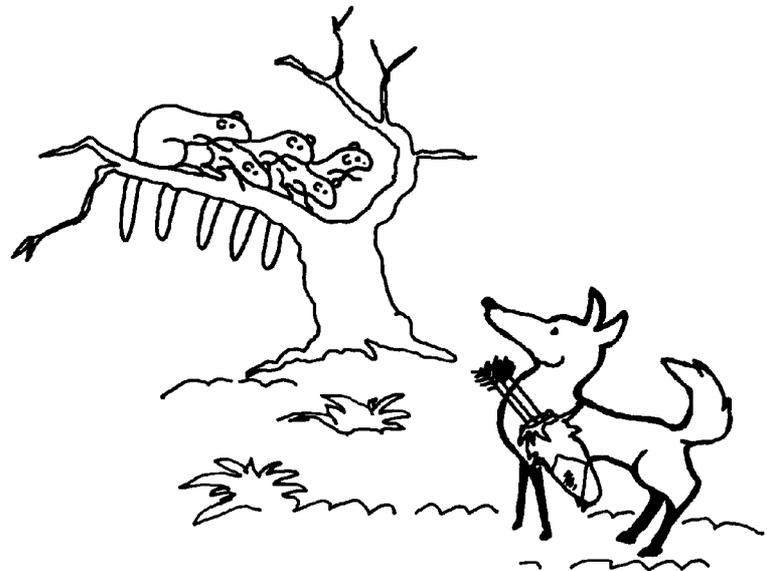
 OYOTE
AND
THE FISHERS

(A fisher is a member of the weasel family.)

One day Coyote was walking
down the trail.
He held his quiver in his hand.
Coyote looked at the quiver and said,
“This quiver is moth-eaten,
ragged and dirty.
I need a new one.”



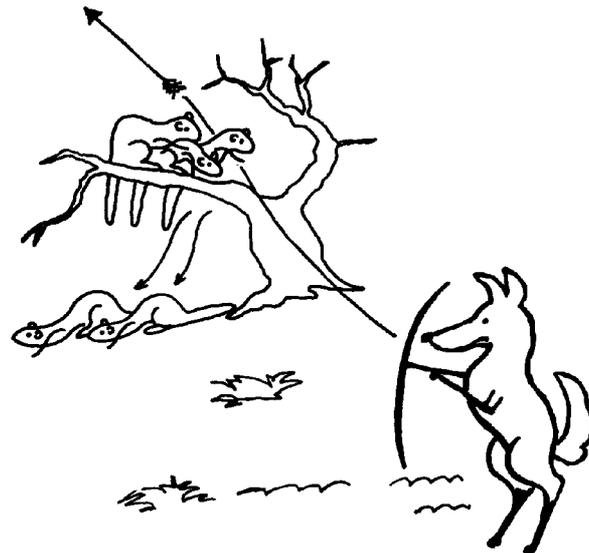
Further down the trail,
Coyote looked up in a tree
and saw five beautiful Fishers
sitting on a branch.
Coyote was glad and said,
“Here is where
I get a new quiver.”



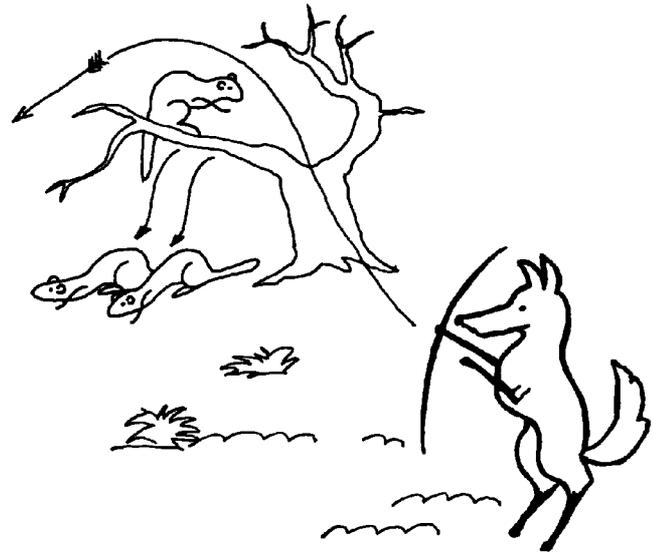
So Coyote took his old one
and tore it up.
He threw the pieces
down the mountainside.



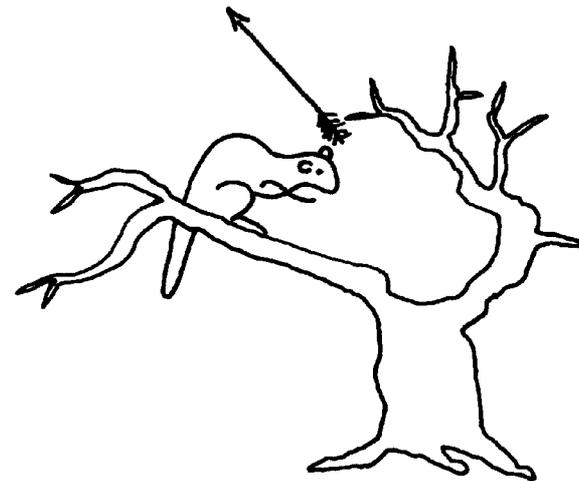
Then he took his arrows
and shot at the Fishers.
As the first arrow went by,
two Fishers jumped down
and ran away.



Then Coyote shot another arrow.
Two more Fishers jumped down
and ran away.



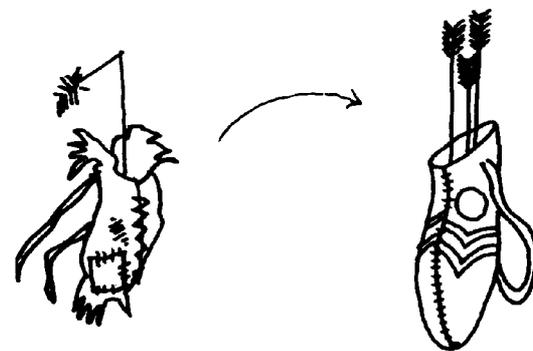
Coyote didn't mind.
He said,
"I'll still have my new quiver."
He shot at the last Fisher.
But he missed it.



Coyote climbed down the mountain.
He picked up all the pieces
of his old quiver
and sewed them back together.



So never throw away anything
until you are sure
you have replaced it
with something new.





VERBENA GREENE

Verbena Greene, a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon, is the mother of eight children. She attended Warm Springs Boarding School until the 11th grade and later earned her G.E.D. She has served as Local Coordinator for the Warm Springs Curriculum Development Committee and was the Tribal Education Program Liaison for more than seven years. She presently is serving as Culture Resource Person for the Tribes, providing classroom cultural instruction (legends, values, songs, etc.) on a consultant basis to schools and community colleges. She enjoys working with young people and is pleased that students are now forming culture clubs and holding powwows in the school environment.



CAROL ALLISON

Carol Allison has been closely associated with the Warm Springs Tribes for 16 years. She works in several different media, including water colors, cloth painting (shawls, skirts), and cartooning. In addition to writing and illustrating children's books, she has worked with Warm Springs committees writing down tribal history and culture.

Booklets available in the Level I sequence are listed below. Numbers refer to the planned sequence of use as outlined in the *Teacher's Manual*. Materials developed by these tribes and others in the Northwest will appear in the Levels II and III sequence.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 <i>Coyote and the Stars</i>
The Confederated Tribes of the
Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon | 11 <i>Birds and People</i>
Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
Commission |
| 2 <i>How Wild Horses Were Captured</i>
The Confederated Tribes of the
Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon | 12 <i>Chipmunk Meets Old Witch</i>
The Confederated Tribes of the
Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon |
| 3 <i>School</i>
Blackfeet Tribe | 13 <i>My Name Is Pop</i>
Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
Commission |
| 4 <i>Philene and Buttons</i>
Northern Cheyenne Tribe | 14 <i>Santa Claus Comes to the Reservation</i>
Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
Commission |
| 5 <i>Insects Off to War</i>
Northern Cheyenne Tribe | 15 <i>How Cottontail Lost His Fingers</i>
The Confederated Tribes of the
Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon |
| 6 <i>Why Bluejay Hops</i>
Skokomish Tribe | 16 <i>Friends</i>
Blackfeet Tribe |
| 7 <i>Indian Festival</i>
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the
Fort Hall Reservation | 17 <i>How Daylight Came to Be</i>
Skokomish Tribe |
| 8 <i>Helpers</i>
Blackfeet Tribe | 18 <i>A Little Boy's Big Moment</i>
Blackfeet Tribe |
| 9 <i>Far Out, A Rodeo Horse</i>
Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
Commission | 19 <i>Skunk</i>
Muckleshoot Tribe |
| 10 <i>Tales of Coyote and Other Legends</i>
The Confederated Tribes of the
Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon | 20 <i>Raven Helps the Indians</i>
Skokomish Tribe |

For order information and prices of the above booklets and the *Teacher's Manual*, contact the publisher:

Educational Systems, Inc.
2360 Southwest 170th Street
Beaverton, Oregon 97005
(503) 649-7516



**THE INDIAN READING SERIES:
Stories and Legends of the Northwest**