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:

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Thunder and the Mosquito
Level II Book 2

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A Muckleshoot Legend
As told by Clarence Barr
Illustrated by Debra Barr

Joseph Coburn, Director
Pacific Northwest Indian Program
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
Long ago the great Thunderbird lived at Thunder Mountain.
In the spring the Thunderbird would be very hungry. With the first thunderstorm, the Thunderbird would send the mosquito down into the valley for food.
The mosquito would gather blood to take back up to the mountain to feed the great Thunderbird.
So each spring and summer, the mosquito would go among the people and gather blood for the Thunderbird.
One spring the Thunderbird wanted even more blood. The Thunderbird asked, "Where do you get my food?" The mosquito said nothing. He remembered all the kind people. He feared for the safety of his friends.
The fierce Thunderbird again asked the mosquito his question.
"Where do you get my food?" he said.
The trembling mosquito decided to lie to protect the people.
The mosquito answered, "Oh, great Thunderbird,
I get the blood from the trees below."
The Thunderbird immediately struck down a tree so that the mosquito could draw all the tree’s blood for him.
From that time to this, mosquitoes have gathered blood from people.
And the Thunderbird still strikes down trees with lightning.
Booklets available in the Level II sequence are listed below. Numbers refer to the planned sequence of use in the Teacher's Manual. Materials developed by these tribes and others in the Northwest are included in the Levels I and III sequences.

1. End of Summer
   Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural Commission

2. Thunder and the Mosquito
   Muckleshoot Tribe

3. Why the Codfish Has a Red Face
   Skokomish Tribe

4. How Wildcat and Coyote Tricked Each Other
   Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation

5. Pat Learns About Wild Peppermint
   Blackfeet Tribe

6. Picture Writing
   The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

7. Grandma Rides in the Parade
   Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural Commission

8. The Bob-Tailed Coyote
   Northern Cheyenne Tribe

9. The Great Flood
   Skokomish Tribe

10. The Rainbow
    The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

11. The Time the Whale Came to Jackson's Bay
    Skokomish Tribe

12. Coyote and the Man Who Sits On Top
    Salish Cultural Committee of The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

13. The Crow
    Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation

14. Tepee, Sun and Time
    Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural Commission

15. Water Story
    Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural Commission

16. How Birds Learned to Fly
    The Fourteen Confederated Tribes from the Yakima Nation

17. Napi and the Bullberries
    Blackfeet Tribe

18. How Cottontail Lost His Tail
    The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

    The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

20. Why Animals and Man Can No Longer Talk to One Another
    The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

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

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