How Wildcat and Coyote Tricked Each Other

The Indian Reading Series

Level II Book 4
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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How Wildcat and Coyote Tricked Each Other
Level II Book 4

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One day when Coyote was out for a Sunday stroll, he saw some tracks.
He followed them and found Wildcat asleep under a tree.
Coyote took Wildcat's tail and made it short.
He stretched his hind legs
and shaped his head until it was round.
When Wildcat woke up and saw his shadow, he noticed he looked different.
Wildcat became very angry.
He saw Coyote’s tracks and knew who had done this.
He found Coyote taking a nap.
While Coyote was asleep,
    Wildcat made Coyote’s tail big and bushy
    and shaped his nose until it was pointed.
Then Wildcat was happy, and he went on his way.
When Coyote woke up and saw his bushy tail,
he wondered what had happened to him.
That is how Wildcat and Coyote tricked each other. That is why today the coyote has a long, pointed nose and big, bushy tail. It is also why the wildcat has a short tail, stretched legs and round head.
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
19 Being Indian Is
    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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