The Indian Reading Series

Story of the Seasons

Level III Book 1
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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THE INDIAN READING SERIES:
Stories and Legends of the Northwest

Story of the Seasons
Level III Book 1

By members of the Warm Springs Reservation Committee

Carol Allison, Illustrator
Nita Curtis, Consultant
William Frank, Illustrator
Rena Greene
Verbena Greene, Coordinator
Viola Kalama
Stella McKinley
Ada Sooksoit
Felix Wallulatum
Wilson Wewa

Illustrated by Carol Allison

Joseph Coburn, Director
Pacific Northwest Indian Program
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
Story of the Seasons
Long, long ago there were many kinds of Seasons. They were very much like people.
They could talk and laugh.
They played games.
They even worked.
They had many council meetings.
They would meet together and make many rules.
They changed their rules all the time.
When it was time to work,
each Season did what he wanted to do.
The Frost would come and all the Earth would freeze.
Sometimes the Snow came and it was cold.
Then the Sun would shine and melt all the Snow away.
Sometimes the Sun was very hot.
The Earth would turn brown and dry up.
Everything on the land began to die.
This was not good.
"We will make a rule to work together," said the Seasons.
“People will soon be put on this land. We must get ready for them.”
The council meeting started.
All the Seasons came together.
The meeting went on for many moons.
Many ideas were put forth.
The North Wind, who was powerful, wanted to be the leader. All the other Winds said, “No!”
“Let us make a big circle so everyone will have a voice and make an equal stand. We want no beginning or end — just a big, round circle.”
Finally, the Sun, Moon and Stars were called to the big council fire.
"You shall decide for us," said the Seasons. "How can we be placed in the big circle? We don't want to harm anyone."
The Sun, Moon and Stars lined up the Seasons.
"There shall be four main Seasons in one circle," said the Sun.
The Moon then placed the smaller Seasons between the big Seasons.
The Stars had all the Seasons promise
they would never try to leave their places.
That is the way the Seasons were put in order.
But once in awhile they get out of order.
It might Rain, Hail or Snow in the summertime.
Sometimes Frost comes too early, 
and you see the Stars moving fast in the sky.
The Stars are trying to keep Frost from coming too soon.
The Stars work hard to keep the Seasons in order.
The Winds help bring Rain, Hail, Snow, Fog and Clouds to the Earth at different times of the year.
And so it goes.
The Sun is still ruler over all the Seasons.
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 III 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 II sequences.

1 Story of the Seasons
   The Confederated Tribes of the
   Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

2 The Beginning of the Earth
   The Confederated Tribes of the
   Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

3 The Blacktail Dance
   Blackfeet Tribe

4 How Marten Got His Spots
   Kootenai Cultural Committee of
   The Confederated Salish and
   Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead
   Reservation

5 Lost in the Fog
   Jamestown-Clallam Tribe

6 How to Be a Friend
   The Confederated Tribes of the
   Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

7 How the Morning and Evening Stars
   Came to Be
   Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the
   Fort Peck Reservation

8 Raccoon's Black Eyes and Ringed Tail
   Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the
   Fort Hall Reservation

9 Coyote and Old Lady
   Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the
   Fort Hall Reservation

10 Coyote and Trout
    Kootenai Cultural Committee of
    The Confederated Salish and
    Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead
    Reservation

11 How the Milky Way Got into the Sky
   The Confederated Tribes of the
   Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

12 Inkdomi and the Buffalo
    Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the
    Fort Peck Reservation

13 Medicine Horse
    Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the
    Fort Hall Reservation

14 The Good Hunter and Fisherman
    Jamestown-Clallam Tribe

15 The Wild Buffalo Ride
    Blackfeet Tribe

16 I Am a Rock
    Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
    Commission

17 The Man Who Loved Shell Money
    Skokomish Tribe

18 Old Man Napi
    Blackfeet Tribe

19 The Turtle Who Went to War
    Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the
    Fort Peck Reservation

20 Coyote and the Mean Mountain Sheep
    Salish Cultural Committee of
    The Confederated Salish and
    Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead
    Reservation

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