

# LITTLE WEASEL'S DREAM

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:

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THE INDIAN READING SERIES  
Stories and Legends of the Northwest

## Little Weasel's Dream

Level IV Book 7

Developed by the Kootenai Cultural Committee of the  
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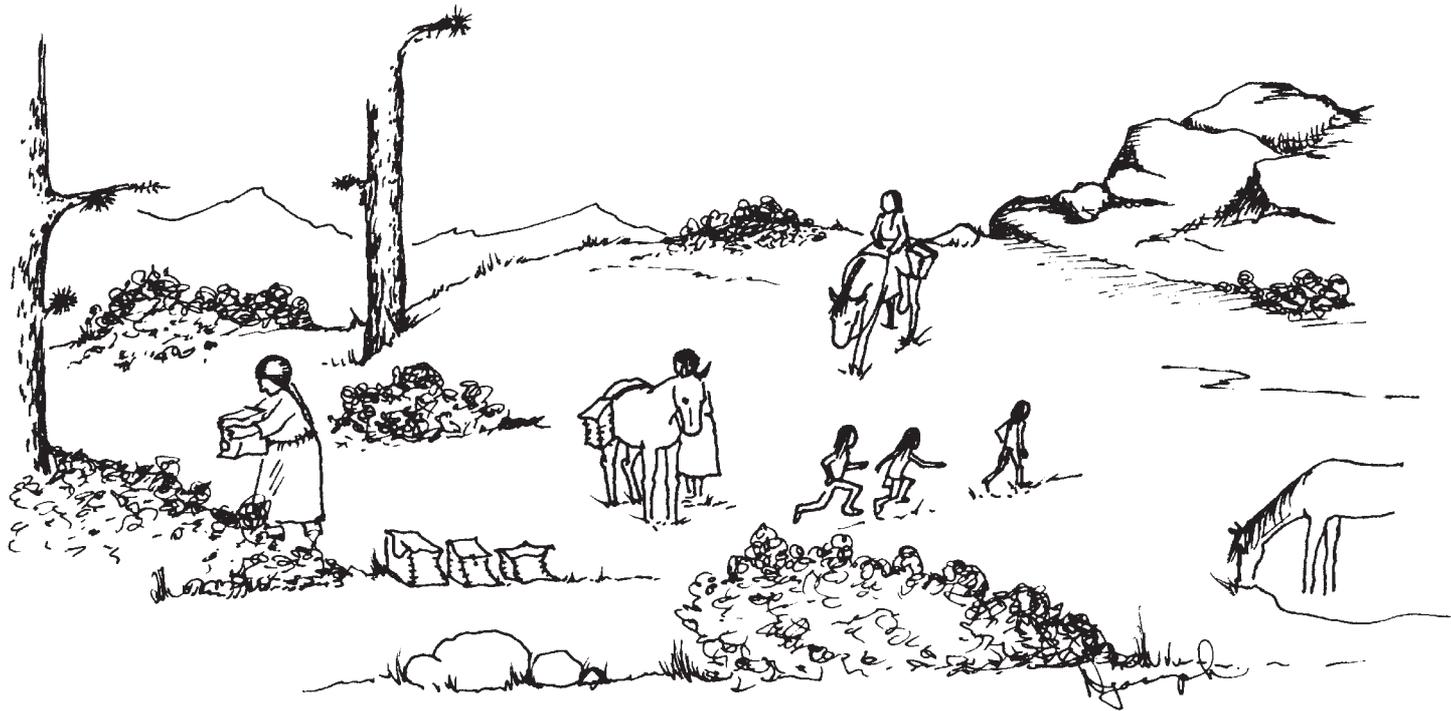
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It was the middle of August. The berries were ripe and ready for picking. A party of seven women decided to take their children whortleberry picking. They planned to go up into the mountains behind Lone Pine.

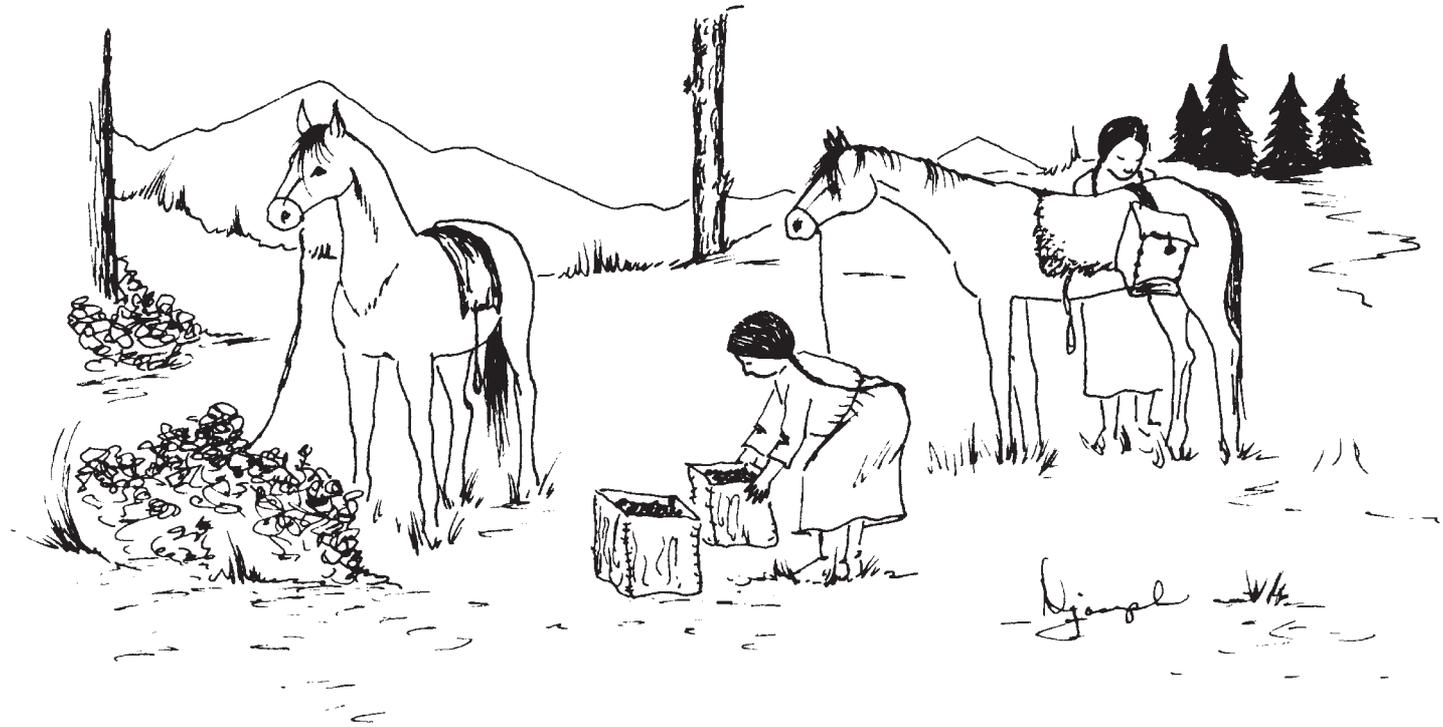
They had to travel by horseback. They loaded their picking baskets on the horses. The children had to ride double and even triple. The younger children rode with their mothers.



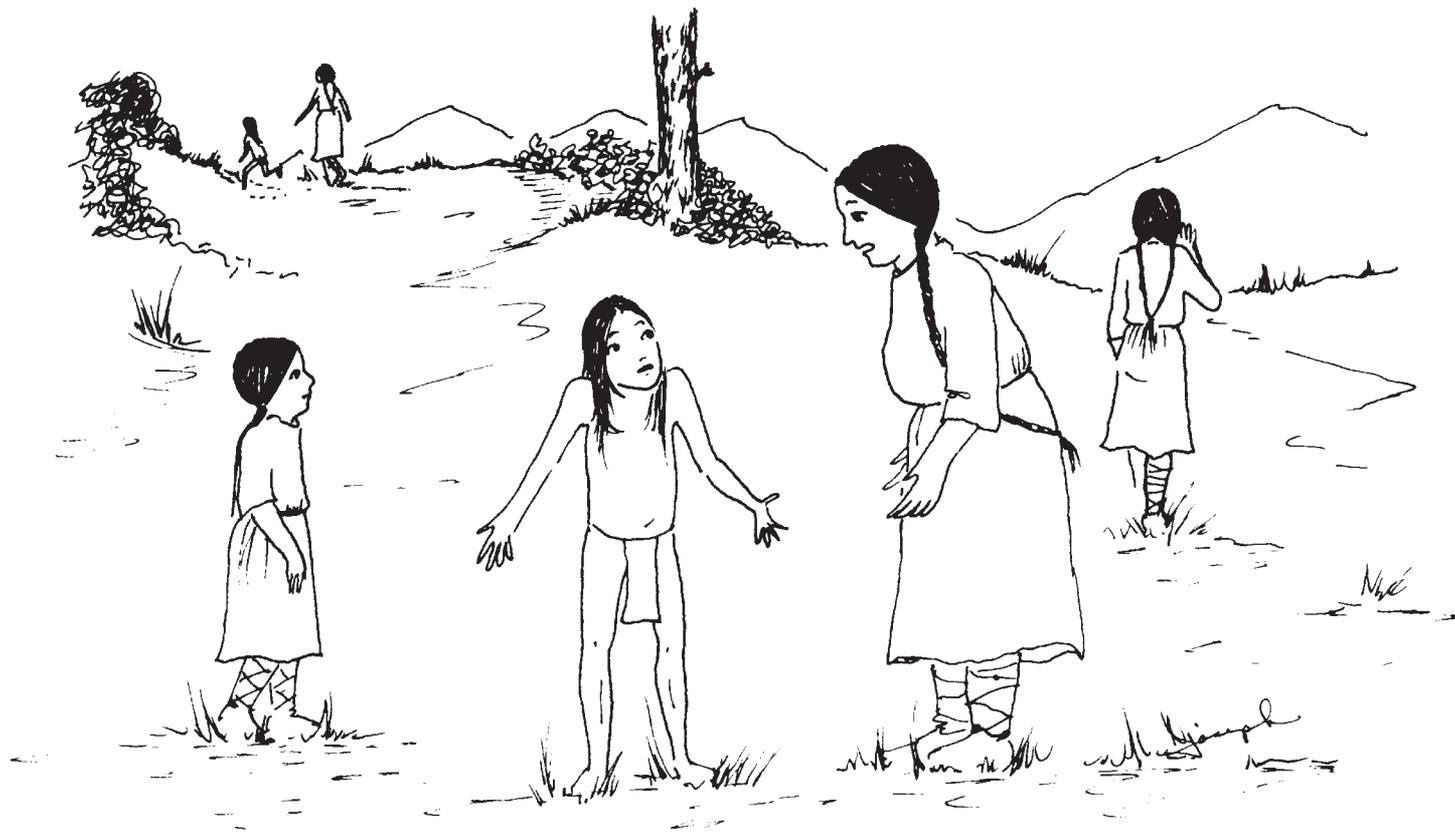
The women and children rode for many hours until they found a spot with enough berries to fill their baskets. They stopped, unloaded their baskets and piled them near the berry patch.

To nearby trees they tied their horses with enough lead rope to graze.

Someone saw signs of wild animals so they had to be extra careful. The children were given strict orders to stay close together near the elders. The older children were expected to watch the younger ones.



The women were so busy picking that they forgot about everything else. Late in the afternoon when the baskets were full, they decided it was time to start home. The women told the children to get ready for the long, slow trip home.



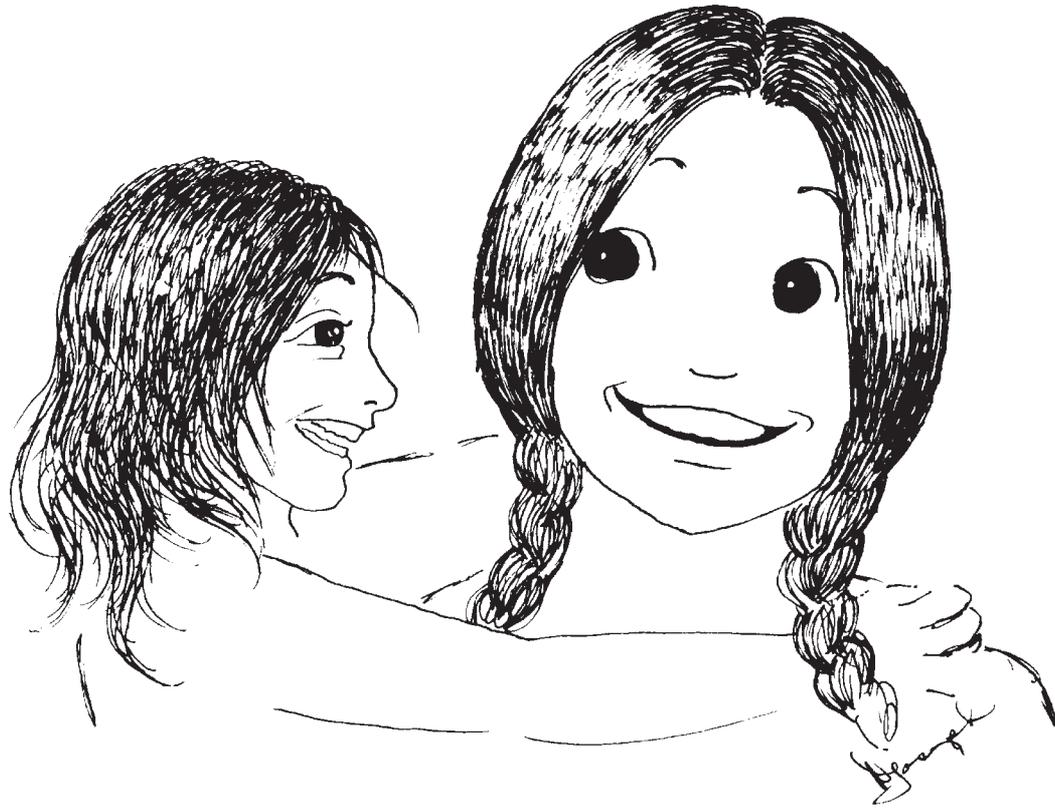
One of the women noticed that she hadn't seen her three year-old-son Little Weasel for quite some time. She became alarmed when she found that no one else had seen him either. The women and children began looking all over for Little Weasel.



Little Weasel was playing and having such a fun time that he didn't realize he had wandered too far and was lost. When he realized he was lost, he began running, desperately trying to find his mother. He couldn't find his mother or anyone else. He sat down on a log and began to cry.



Suddenly, he heard branches breaking behind him. When he turned around, he saw a big, black bear coming towards him. Little Weasel was very frightened.



He began to scream for help as loudly as he could. The women were about to give up their search and send for help from their village. Then they heard Little Weasel cry out for his mother. She ran to him, picked him up and held him in her arms. She was so happy that her son was safe.







CLEO KENMILLE

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Booklets available in the Level IV 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, II and III sequences.

1. *Warm Springs Animal Stories*  
The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs  
Reservation of Oregon
2. *Snail Women at Sq<sup>3</sup>a'le*  
The Suquamish Tribe of the Port Madison  
Reservation
3. *Blue Jay – Star Child/Basket Woman*  
Muckleshoot Tribe
4. *Assiniboine Woman Making Grease*  
Assiniboine Tribe of the Fort Peck Reservation
5. *Coyote*  
The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs  
Reservation of Oregon
6. *How the Summer Season Came*  
Assiniboine Tribe of the Fort Belknap  
Reservation
7. *Little Weasel's Dream*  
Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead  
Reservation
8. *Fort Hall Stories*  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall  
Reservation
9. *The Bear Teepee*  
Northern Cheyenne Tribe
10. *Sioux Stories and Legends*  
Sioux Tribe of the Fort Peck Reservation
11. *Kootenai Stories*  
Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead  
Reservation
12. *Chief Mountain's Medicine*  
Gros Ventre Tribe from the Fort Belknap  
Reservation
13. *Coyote the Trickster*  
Burns Paiute Reservation
14. *Running Free*  
Shoalwater Bay
15. *Salish Coyote Stories*  
Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead  
Reservation
16. *Coyote and the Cowboys*  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall  
Reservation
17. *Napi's Journey*  
Blackfeet Tribe
18. *Warm Springs Stories*  
The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs  
Reservation of Oregon
19. *Teepee Making*  
Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead  
Reservation
20. *Baskets and Canoes*  
Skokomish Tribe
21. *Warrior People*  
Blackfeet Tribe



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