Moosehide Robe Woman

Told by George White Bird

Illustrated by LaVern Alfrey
Moosehide Robe Woman was an only child. Her parents loved her very much. They let Moosehide Robe Woman do whatever she wanted to do.
Every night young men would come to see Moosehide Robe Woman. They all wanted to marry her. Moosehide Robe Woman didn’t like most of the young men. She only cared for two certain men.

One night Moosehide Robe Woman followed the first man to his tepee. She found that this young man was very spoiled and mean to his mother.

On another night, she went to the second man’s tepee. She saw that he was kind to his mother.

Moosehide Robe Woman decided to marry the second man. His name was Star Boy.
The following morning Moosehide Robe Woman was going to tell her parents she wanted to marry Star Boy. Before she could tell her parents, she was interrupted by the chief.

The chief told all the young warriors to get ready for a long journey. The warriors were going to do battle with their enemies. The next day Star Boy and all the other young men left the camp.

Moosehide Robe Woman decided to follow Star Boy.
When Moosehide Robe Woman followed the warriors, she stayed far behind them. When the men finally saw Moosehide Robe Woman, Star Boy tried to tell her to return home, but she told Star Boy she wanted to stay with him. Moosehide Robe Woman didn’t care if it was dangerous. She said she would hide.

The next morning the warriors found the enemy. Star Boy’s leg was wounded. He was captured and taken to the enemy’s camp.

That night, Moosehide Robe Woman followed the enemy to their camp. She searched and searched for Star Boy. When Moosehide Robe Woman found Star Boy, she helped him to escape.
After Moosehide Robe Woman and Star Boy were far away from the camp, they hid in some bushes. Soon the enemy warriors were near. They looked for Moosehide Robe Woman and Star Boy but could not find them.
Many days passed. Because Star Boy and Moosehide Robe Woman did not return home, everyone thought they had been killed in battle. Their parents were very sad.

Star Boy and Moosehide Robe Woman took a long time because many days passed before Star Boy was able to walk. With the help of Moosehide Robe Woman, Star Boy used a crutch to travel. Together, they walked back to their camp.

One night, Star Boy and Moosehide Robe Woman finally reached their camp. Everyone was surprised and their parents were very happy.
Star boy told everyone how brave Moosehide Robe Woman had been. He told of how she had rescued him from the enemy's camp. Everyone was so happy they celebrated with a feast.

Moosehide Robe Woman and Star Boy lived a long and happy life.
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 Woman at Squaw's
   - The Squaxin 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 Seasons Came
   - Assiniboine Tribe of the Fort Belknap Reservation

7. Little Wesson'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 Trap
   - 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
    - Shoshone-Bannock Tribe

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. Tesla Making
    - Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

20. Baskets and Cans
    - Skokomish Tribe

21. Warrior People
    - Blackfeet Tribe