OWL'S EYES

Kootenai Stories

Developed by the Kootenai Cultural Committee of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA: Plateau Region

STORY TYPE(S): Natural Phenomena

Summary:

Mouse and Owl were good friends. Mouse wanted to play but he could not get Owl's attention because Owl was asleep. Lurking in the bushes was Mr. Snake who crawled quietly up and ate Mouse. Mouse only screamed once which woke up Owl. Owl, unable to help his friend, was so surprised his eyes got big.

This story offers an explanation of why owls have big eyes.

Teacher Guided Activities:

1. Have students go through magazines and cut out pictures of different facial expressions. Put them on a bulletin board and have students try to identify or describe the expression and the feeling that motivated it.

They could look up the spelling of the words and write them on strips of paper. The paper strips could be tacked near the expression being depicted. Encourage your students to use synonyms for over worked words like sad or happy.

Introduce new words of expression as you come across them in your reading.

2. Students should work in pairs with one of the students being the initiator of facial and body expressions while the other partner tries to be a mirror and do exactly as his or her partner has done.
or

Have one partner make facial expressions while the other partner tries to guess how they feel. If the one guessing is right then switch roles. If they are wrong the other partner takes their turn at another expression.

Student Activity Card(s):