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

Do What You Are Told
Na-See-Natchez (The Wet Boy)
The Bears and The Deers
Level V Book3

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Do What You Are Told
Coyote was with Esha. Esha was going to be in a fight. As he was getting ready he told his brother, "Don't watch me even though you hear a lot of fighting. Don't even peek at me."

Coyote could not stand not looking at his brother. As he heard the fighting outside the tepee, he peeked in a little crack at his brother and as he did this his brother was shot and fell to the ground.
His enemies took him and roasted him. Then they had a victory celebration with dancing. Coyote had tracked them to the dance. When they were feasting he knew he had to get a bone from his brother. When they weren't looking he grabbed a bone and carried it with him everywhere he went. At night he would bury it in the ground. He did this for several days because it was his nosiness that got his brother killed. He wanted to make up for it by carrying the bone with him.
But one morning he heard a voice tell him to build a campfire. At first he thought he was hearing things but the voice spoke again. Coyote tried to look around his camp site but this time he knew it belonged to his brother Esha.

He gathered some wood and built a big fire. His brother had come back to life. He was so happy to see him alive that he did everything his brother wanted without complaining.
Na-See-Natchez (The Wet Boy)
Long ago there was a young man who lived with his grandmother. Nobody liked to be around him because he was always having accidents.
His neighbor had two daughters and they were very pretty. Na-See-Natchez wanted to marry one of them. He asked his grandmother, "What do I do when I want to marry one of these girls?" She told him, "Visit their parents and if they want you to marry one of their daughters, they will let you stay the night." So the young man sat at the opening of the tepee. Later at the end of the evening he was nodding his head as he was going to sleep. The father told his daughters to let him sleep with them so that he would not get cold.
During the night the young man had an accident. The girls threw him out of the bed and told him to go home.

The young man cried and cried as he was going home to his grandmother.

The next day he told his grandmother that he was going away to the mountains. He told her, "If it is thundering don't look out but stay in your house." He went on up into the forest and cried and cried his heart out. The Spirit heard him and gave him many kinds of things and a lot of horses. He was rich!
Then it started to thunder as he was coming off of the mountain. His grandmother heard the roaring but heeded her grandson’s wish and never looked out of her tepee. The young man arrived home and showed his gifts to his grandmother. What pretty things he had. When the sisters heard that he was rich they tried to go over and be friendly with him, but Na-See-Natchez just ignored them. They were sorry for kicking him out of their house.

The moral of this story is:
"TREAT EVERYBODY THE SAME, NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS."
The Bears and The Deers
A bear and her two cubs lived close to a family of deer with two fawns. The bears were camped at their yapah digging grounds.

Yapah is a tasty root that the Paiute Tribe gather when available. Everyday when they would go digging the bear would check the deer for lice on her neck. This made the mother deer very nervous so when she came home she told her children, "One of these days the bear will probably kill me as she is checking my neck too often. If this happens I will not return home that night so you children should leave right away."
One day the bear was checking the neck of the deer and bit her neck and killed her. That evening the bear packed all of the deer meat into her digging sacks and went back to the camp. When she arrived she told the deer children, "Your mother has found a lot of yapah and is going to camp there overnight so she can have an early start in the morning."
The fawns suspected something was wrong and cried for their mother when the bear cubs would show a piece of meat and eat it. (They were teasing the fawns.) The fawns planned to get even by killing the bear cubs. They made a plan to do away with them. The next day the mother bear loaded up her sacks to go digging and left the children.
The fawns told the bear cubs that they should play this game where they would dig a hole and build a fire to make smoke and see who could stay in there the longest. When they could not stand the smoke they would call out, "Smoke! Smoke!" and the fawns would let them out to get air. They took turns playing the game until the bear cubs went in and they closed the door. Soon the bear cubs cried out, "Smoke! Smoke!" but the fawns ignored them and they suffocated to death.
The fawns then took them out and put them by their camp like they were standing up. The fawns made a lot of tracks in the dirt with their hoofs so the mother would get confused. This gave them time to escape before the mother bear came home.
When the mother bear got home she sensed that something was wrong as she dumped her bags. She finally figured out which way the tracks were headed and followed them.
The fawns were resting in a pine tree when they looked back and saw her in the distance. She caught up with them and begged them to come down. She told them their mother had come home and wanted them, but the fawns knew this was a trick and never paid any attention to her. After she begged and begged she fell asleep under the pine tree. The fawns would break a branch and throw it on her to see if she was really asleep. They kept on doing this until they were sure she was fast asleep. They then jumped out of the tree and ran off.
The bear woke up and chased them. The fawns came to a big river and knew that it was too swift to swim across before the bear caught up with them. They saw a crane fishing along the bank so they asked, "Uncle, can you fly us on your back across the river?" He said, "Sure, get on." He took them over the river and flew up into the woods. When he left them he said, "Stay here where you have cover." The crane also warned them about danger: "Don't be afraid of people who sing and whistle as they are walking through the woods. They are not the ones who are out to harm you. But beware of the person who is silently walking along. He is the one who is going to harm you." He left them.
When the bear got to the river she asked the same thing. The crane agreed to take her across but warned her to stay still. When they were in the middle of the river she asked the crane if she could get a drink of water. As she got through drinking she tapped the crane's knee with her clay cup to shake out the water. When this happened the crane said, "Ouch!" and folded his legs up. Thus the bear fell off into the water and floated down the swift river away from the fawns.
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 Squa'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 Tepee**  
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. **Tepee Making**  
Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

20. **Baskets and Canoes**  
Skokomish Tribe

21. **Warrior People**  
Blackfeet Tribe