The Story of Wildhorse Island

Developed by the Flathead Culture Committee of the Confederated Salish and Kootenaï Tribes of Montana

Geographical Area: Plateau Region

Vocabulary:
- Kooteani
- agile
- anticipated
- snare
- white-tail does
- surefooted
- sub-agency

Reading Motivators:
Discuss the difference between wild animals and animals that are domesticated. What are the pros and cons of domesticating animals (i.e., pheasants, trout, horses, etc.)?

Show films on the big horn sheep or locate pictures of big horn sheep.

Locate on a map some of the places listed in the story such as Flathead Lake and Dayton, Montana.

Discussion Topics:
Discuss Eagles and their methods of survival.

Review information on endangered species.

What are some special adaptations of sheep (i.e., hooves, fur, legs, etc.).

Discuss why they wanted the big horn sheep on Wild Horse Island?

Follow-up Activities:
1. Have students make maps of this area, drawn to scale with map legend.
2. Have students research and report on trapping. Some may want to try to make snares.
3. Have students research and report on the use of sheep wool; spinning, carding, weaving, etc. Invite a weaver to class.