

# The Otter and the Beaver

Series IV



Long ago, Otter and Beaver lived together in a tepee. Otter and Beaver were both blind and could not see anything in or around their tepee.

The Otter and the Beaver each had five pokers or fire sticks. With their five pokers, they would always poke around here and there to find things. They were always counting their pokers to make sure they had them all. The pokers left mounds when they were poked into the ground.

One day, Eagle was on his way to the mountain, and decided to visit Otter and Beaver. Eagle saw the ten pokers all lined up, poked into the ground. When he was ready to leave, Eagle decided to borrow one to take with him. He thought, "This will help me on the mountain top!"

Eagle said goodbye and continued with one of Beaver's pokers.

Beaver sat down and began to count his pokers once more, and found one was missing. Beaver jumped around and flapped his tail on the ground. He was so angry! Every day while Eagle was gone, Beaver counted his pokers. When he counted only four, he would become angry all over again.

Eagle returned and saw how angry Beaver was, and apologized for borrowing his poker. But Beaver would not forgive Eagle, and was still pouting.

“To show you how sorry I am,” explained Eagle, “I will operate on your eyes and you and Otter will both be able to see.”

“Oh, how wonderful!” shouted Otter, for he wanted to see the whole forest.

Beaver, who was still pouting, finally agreed to let Eagle operate on him too.

Eagle set to work on the operation. Because Otter was so good, he made his eyes big so he could see the whole world.

But, he made Beaver's eyes small, because Beaver was angry.

After Eagle finished his work, he flew off and never came back.

When you are happy, your eyes will shine and you can see forever. But when you are angry, your eyes are small and you can only see what you want to.

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 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



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