

**NEW WORDS:**

vigorous  
dislodged  
haunches  
furious  
fully

**BEAR HAT**

**Fort Hall Stories**

Developed by members of the Fort Hall Reservation Committee

**GEOGRAPHICAL AREA:** Plateau Region

**STORY TYPE(S):** Description of Culture

**Summary:**

While on a hunting trip with friends Bee-bu-bah-gent wrestled a wounded bear. Because of this encounter he received the name Bear Hat.

This is an adventure story which explains another way in which Indian people have received names. Rather than receiving a name in a vision or dream, Bee-bu-bah-gent's name originated from one significant event in his life.

**Teacher Guided Activities:**



1. Ask students to describe how they may have received their name or nickname and why. List these on the board. Other tribes have ceremonies or special people who give names. See if there is such a person in the community.

Ask students to decide which ways they would prefer to be named and tell why. Do names really influence our behavior? Why do people get angry when being called names?



2. See how many places in the community have been given Indian names. Can students find any of the meanings for the names? Have students research how many place names have Indian origins (cities, states, rivers, mountains, etc.).

**Student Activity Card(s):**

See Bears and Hats Card (9A-9B).