

NEW WORDS:

interrupted
spoiled
celebrated
rescued

MOOSEHIDE ROBE WOMAN**Sioux Stories and Legends**

Developed by members of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
of the Fort Peck Reservation

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA: Plains Region

STORY TYPE(S): Indian Values

Summary:

Moosehide Robe Woman had her choice of many suitors but decided to marry Star Boy because of the good way he treated his mother. However, before she could make her decision known, he rode off to battle. Star Boy was wounded and captured. Moosehide Robe Woman followed the warriors even though it was a very dangerous thing to do. She was able to help Star Boy escape and brought him home.

In addition to showing the type of valor exemplified by many Indian women, Moosehide Robe Woman valued kindness to relatives. If one does not show kindness and respect at home, it is unlikely that he or she will show it elsewhere.

Teacher Guided Activities:

1. This story offers a good opportunity to study the status of Indian women (or women in general) in your community. What kinds of jobs do women perform? Where do they work? What are some traditional Indian women's roles? Why were these roles established? How or why have any of these roles changed?

Suggest that students interview various women in your school or the community. Have them write a newspaper article devoted to the common experiences of women and their achievements or highlight individual women and their accomplishments.

Some students may want to go to the library and read about other famous Indian women. It is important to remember that few contemporary biographies are available but those that exist are generally of a better quality content wise than those of historical leaders.

Last but not least, female personages are extremely limited. Historical figures (i.e., Pocahontas or Sacajawea) exclusively dominate this area and are so poorly done as to obscure any relative identity of Indian women. Most often these biographies are characterized by sensationalism and romanticism. An objective profile can rarely be found. The recent development of cultural materials are producing more acceptable, relevant stories of Indian women. A good resource to consider is the *Native American Women: A Bibliography* by Dr. Rayna Green which may be located through the Ohio Resource Center at 2301 Midwestern Parkway - Suite 214, Wichita Falls, Texas 96308.



2. Discuss ways to show respect for others. How do we show kindness? Have students keep a weekly log of all the helpful kind things they have done for others.

Student Activity Card(s):
See Writing Script Card (13A-13B).

Have students think of types of jobs women apply for and select one not often chosen. Using the Writing Script Card have the Four Winds groups write an interview for the job. Afterward, have students role play the interview.