

## NEW WORDS:

costumes

stomach

colorful

meadowlark

# COYOTE AND HIS BIG BROTHER WOLF

## Coyote the Trickster

Developed by the Burns Paiute Reservation

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA: Plateau Region

STORY TYPE(S): Indian Values

### Summary:

Coyote and Wolf went for a walk and Coyote decided to visit relatives. Wolf, knowing the bad habits of each relative, warned Coyote what would happen. Coyote, however, did not listen and usually got into mischief.

This story is intended to entertain yet it also shows how foolish and troublesome one can be when ignoring the good advice from elders. Although some good things may result, it is more likely that misfortune will prevail.

### Teacher Guided Activities:



1. Discuss the use of manners or customs when talking with relatives. Within some Indian communities there are strict codes of behavior when around certain relatives.

For example, only certain relationships allow individuals the right to tease each other. Often only aunts and uncles are responsible for discipline. Encourage students to identify what customs of behavior they have noticed in operation in their own community.

It is important to have students identify **why** manners are observed. You may want to review class manners for visitors. For example: "Do you lay across the doorway when visitors or relatives come to visit? Do you comb your hair and offer fleas to visitors or relatives when they come to dinner?" Relate the story situations to other behaviors in contemporary settings.



2. Review the Writing Script Card with the class. To give students a chance to practice the techniques on the card, have the Four Winds groups write the dialogue one might use when going to visit his relatives. What type of greeting is appropriate?

### Student Activity Card(s):

See Writing Script Card (13A-13B).