

NEW WORDS:

special
hollering
smelt
innocent
jerky
romp
ashamed
pleaded

RUNNING FREE

Developed by the members of the Shoalwater Bay Curriculum Committee

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA: Coastal Region

STORY TYPE(S): Indian Values

Summary:

This is the story of a unique relationship which developed between a family and their pet deer. The fawn adopted the family after their father put medicine on its sore foot. The deer played, swam, followed the children to school and got into mischief. Eventually, the young deer returned to his own kind which taught the children something about the idea of freedom and the need for all creatures to find their own place.

The deer has provided humans with shelter, food and clothing. In this story the deer gave friendship. The need to return to one's own kind was also seen earlier in the story *Owl Boy*.

Teacher Guided Activities:



1. Consider raising some smaller animal in the classroom such as rabbits, gerbils, hamsters, fish, etc. Assign certain responsibilities to the Four Winds groups. Within the Council Lodge establish the rules for having or keeping a classroom pet.

Have a contest to give the pet(s) a name. Review naming in the Indian way and remember that animals are treated as brothers and sisters.



2. Introduce local programs for youth like 4-H Clubs, Ranchers or Farmers of America, Rodeo Club. Have students who are already members talk to your class about these organizations.

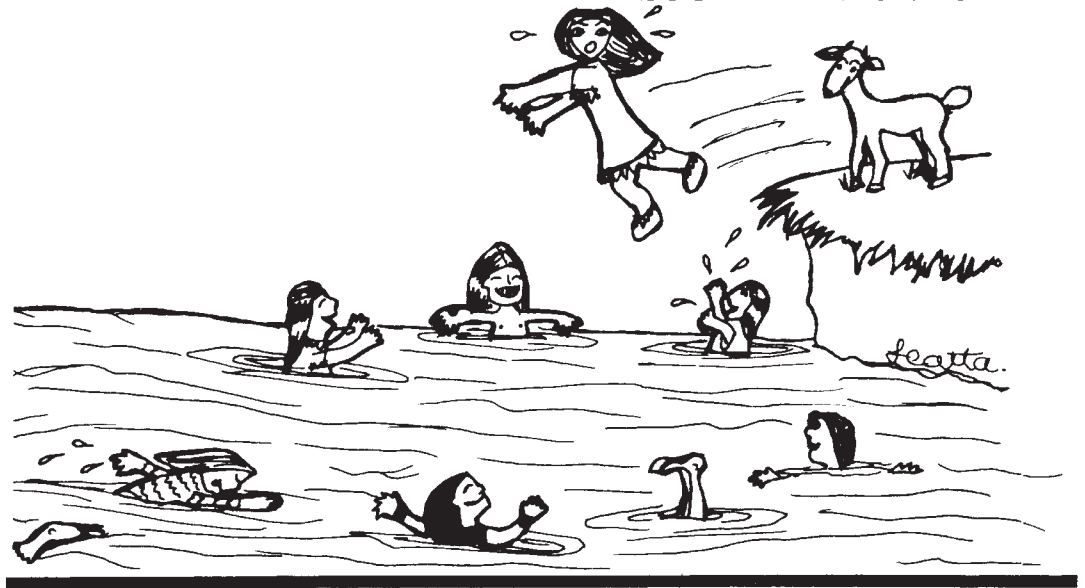
Have students report on different organizations. Discuss how these organizations teach about caring for animals.

Following the Student Activity Card is a list of optional activities which you may want to reproduce for student use.

Student Activity Card(s):

See **Earth, Sky, Water Card (2C-2D)**.

Take time to review animals and their habitat.



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- 1** Write a story about a pet that you have had or one that you know someone else has had.
- 2** Discuss what things you must do to take good care of a pet and why. Make a booklet with pictures.
- 3** Locate and read another story about an unusual pet.
- 4** If you have seen any movies or TV shows such as “Born Free,” retell the story into a tape recorder. (See Firetalk Activity Card)
- 5** Interview a friend who has a pet and write the answers to the following questions.
 - What kind of pet do you have?
 - Describe how it looks and acts.
 - What do you like most/least about it?
 - What do you have to do to take care of it?