

Indian Giant

Developed by the Burns Paiute Reservation

Geographical Area: Plateau Region

Vocabulary:	Numa-Tsa-Hua (Giant)	Ec-Tha-Sha (Coyote)
	Indian willow shades	ha-hab (willow shades)
	an-cha-qui-chad (red)	hi-sii (fried)
	tou-koh (meal)	Kau-sii (tail)
	volunteered	hollered
	nah-ne-wah (relatives)	pa-tsa-wou (killed)

Reading Ask students to list fairy tales about giants.

Motivators: Have students discuss tricks that have been played on them or others and their reaction to them or others. How did they feel?

Discussion Topics: Discuss the tricks Coyote played in this story. How did Coyote outsmart the Giant? Compare this story to *How Animals Got Their Color* (Level V). How was trickery used there. Compare the two.

Discuss the positive and negative role of Coyote in different stories.

- Follow-up Activities:**
1. Have students play “the hit game” as was done in the story. What other Indian games can students list?
 2. Have students write or tell their own story about a giant.
 3. Have students put on the following participation drama. Assign individual students or groups of students to make certain sounds. Put the cues for the sound on cards. Have one student hold up the appropriate sound at the correct moment (or pause) in the story.
 4. Have students make up their own participation drama with another story.

Indian Giant

SOUND CUES: *drum beats* *growl/talk*
 roar! *boom drum*
 chew/chop *yelp!*
 crack! *groan!*
 moan! *slide whistle*
 ohhh!

Indian Giant was walking along a path (*Drum Beats*) when Coyote saw him. The Giant terrorized the whole land (*Roar!*) and ate the Indians (*Chew/Chop!*). When Coyote, the trickster, saw the Giant, he began making plans for him. Coyote decided to play a good trick on the Giant. He decided to make a lot of Indian willow shades (*Crack!*). He also made one for himself. When the Giant arrived (*Drum Beat*), it looked as if there once had been a whole band of Indians living there.

The Giant looked about at the empty shades until he spotted the Coyote lying sick under one of them (*Moan!*). The Giant, seeing Coyote, went up and sat down beside him and said, "So, here you lay sick." Coyote pretended to be very sick (*Ohhh!*). "Yes," he said, "all summer I lay here really sick. You see, all the Indians' shades have dried up and turned red and they all left me here sick." Coyote went on to explain the nature of his illness. (*Moan!*)

The Giant knew Coyote was pretending to be sick, so he said, "We could play a game, the kind you like best." Coyote told the Giant that he had something to do first and he went to talk to his friend, saying, "I shall pick a game to play." He talked (*Growl/talk*) to his friend as to what he should do and his friend told him to put some of his meat at the end of his tail to mislead the Giant.

The Giant heard Coyote making plans. When Coyote returned he asked, "Who were you talking to? What did you say? I heard you talking." Coyote said, "No, I was just making noises." Coyote said, "We should play the hit game." This they did. Coyote asked, "Who's going to lay down first? Giant did not answer so Coyote volunteered. Coyote laid down first. The Indian Giant hit him with a rock (*Boom Drum*) and Coyote hollered (*Yelp!*) and jumped up. Then Giant said, "We should hit each other two times." But Coyote said, "No, just once."

Now it was the Giant's turn to lay down. He knew of Coyote's plan and he kept his eyes on him. Coyote pretended that he couldn't lift the rock (*Groan!*), and told Giant, "I can't lift the rock. It is too heavy and I'm too weak from being sick." Then he told the Giant, "Don't look at me, turn the other way." When Giant began to turn his head, Coyote picked up the rock (*Slide whistle*) and hit the Giant's head (*Boom Drum*). Coyote kept hitting him all the while (*Drum beats*), saying, "What are you? What kind of a Giant are you eating up all my relatives?" Coyote killed the Indian Giant and became free.