

Indian Giant and Indian Mother

Developed by the Burns Paiute Reservation

Geographical Area: Plateau Region

Vocabulary:	yapa roots	fire pit
	willow work	mahogany
	digging sticks	nah-hay-qui (gambling)
	Indian band	maj-ii-sha (beaver)
	pah-qui (fishing)	tue-ka-wah (rats)
	tsa-upa (spirits)	Numah-nah (father)
	puh-tob (sticks)	nah-kog (war)

Reading Motivators: Discuss the consequences of gambling. How might not listening to warnings be considered gambling? What does greed have to do with gambling?

Review other creation stories.

Discuss the numbers five and seven. What reoccurring numbers are there in Indian cultures?

Discussion Topics According to this story, what do the Paiutes believe about giants? What are some consequences for not listening? Discuss some problems parents and children have in communicating with each other. Why does this happen? Why are giants and monsters used in stories? Are there any modern monsters to fear?

Follow-up Activities:

1. Have students discuss other monsters or giants with which they are familiar. Ask students to each locate a monster story to share. Are all monsters bad?
2. Have students research edible plants. Have them try to press plants and label.
3. Have students list unanswered questions or loose details from the story. Ask students to write their own answers. Read aloud and compare.