

Chief Great Raven

retold by Feana Tu`akoi

Summary

The villagers are upset because Raven Boy shares food with the ravens. When the villagers move to another place in search of food, they leave Raven Boy behind as punishment. The birds help Raven Boy to survive and eventually the villagers and the birds learn to live together.

Features of the Text

- Traditional tale
- Third-person narrative
- Orientation, problem, climax, resolution
- Character development
- Animals that speak

Purpose

Chief Great Raven can be used for the following purposes:

- introducing the ideas and vocabulary in the associated nonfiction title;
- forming and supporting opinions;
- making inferences;
- sequencing the main events;
- identifying the features of a traditional tale;
- summarizing and restating information.

Following Up

The students can:

- use the copy master on page 73 to write alternative versions of the story
- list ten things they would take if they had to leave their home suddenly and give a reason for choosing each thing
- research other traditional tales that are about people and animals living in the same environment.

Guided Reading Summary

Introducing the text

Explain to the students that this story is a retelling of a traditional story. Discuss their knowledge of traditional stories.

- *Who do you think would have told this story originally?*
- *Why would they have told it?*

Reading and discussing the text

Ask the students to read to the end of page 5.

- *Why is Raven Boy unpopular with the villagers?*
- *Do you think they were right to be so angry?*
- *What kind of person is Raven Boy?*

Encourage the students to find examples from the text to support their opinions.

The students can now read to the end of page 9.

- *Why was Raven Boy left behind?*
- *What are the villagers worried about?*

Review the events in the story and ask the students to predict what will happen next.

Ask the students to read the rest of the story.

- *How does Raven Boy survive?*
- *Why do you think the villagers returned?*
- *What did they learn from Raven Boy?*