

Title: Otter Boy: A North American Folktale

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

lodge	gentleness	humps	otters	chew
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1. You must chew your food before you swallow it.
2. Otters are cute animals that spend a lot of time in the water.
3. Doctors that work with babies are well-known for their gentleness.
4. There is a very nice ski lodge on top of the mountain.
5. Camels have either one or two humps.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Otter Boy's grandmother was very rich. T / F
2. The Chief's daughter's long black hair was made of eagle feathers. T / F
3. A squirrel was the last animal to come to Otter Boy in his dream. T / F
4. Otter Boy hit the squirrel with his arrow. T / F
5. The squirrel hid every time a boy shot an arrow at it. T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. When Otter Boy gave the squirrel food, he also (sang to / pet) him.
2. The Chief had many beautiful (horses / daughters).
3. All of the animals gave Otter Boy some (hair / advice).
4. The day of the contest was an (important / terrible) day for all the boys in the village.
5. As he held up the squirrel, Otter Boy (knew / prayed) it wasn't hurt.

C. Choose the best answer.

1. What is NOT one of the qualities the Chief wanted in the man who married his daughter?

- a. Speed
- b. Strength
- c. Bravery
- d. Cunning

2. What did Otter Boy's grandmother tell him to do for the contest?

- a. Practice really hard
- b. Go find a horse
- c. Get a new bow and arrow
- d. Ask for help

3. What did many of the boys have the day of the contest?

- a. Gifts they had gotten in a dream
- b. Fine clothes and new bows
- c. Support from their family
- d. Good advice from the Chief

4. Where did the people follow the Chief to?

- a. Another village
- b. The river
- c. A tree
- d. His big house

5. What is one thing Otter Boy did NOT do after the contest?

- a. Marry the Chief's daughter
- b. Become a Chief himself
- c. Live with the squirrel
- d. Thank the animals

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

wrestled	squirrel	Pawnee	cunning	buffalo
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Otter Boy was poor and lived with his grandmother in a village. His only friend was a squirrel, Skipis. Otter Boy wanted to marry the Chief's beautiful and kind daughter. The Chief planned to choose his daughter's husband by having a contest. He wanted to find a boy who was strong, brave and cunning. All the boys in the village prepared for the contest. They wrestled and practiced shooting and running. Otter Boy was sad because he did not think he could win. His grandmother told him to ask for help. Otter Boy went on a journey. In a dream, an otter, a buffalo, and other animals appeared. They offered him help and gave him some of their hair. Otter Boy returned for the contest. The boys had to shoot a squirrel. Otter Boy tried but missed. However, the squirrel pretended to be dead. It was Skipis! Otter Boy won the contest and married the Chief's daughter. He later became a leader of the Pawnee people.