



TRADITIONAL STORIES

Some DPA Cards refer to traditional stories. While Internet links are not always reliable and thus few are provided here, it is advised that you search for these stories and others online using a search engine, or use books in your school library. If you are trying to encourage oral storytelling, invite an Elder or community storyteller to tell a story to the students. In most cases, these are oral stories that are therefore best shared with students aloud, rather than read individually by students.

*For DPA activities, the best stories to use are those that involve animals. (*These stories are referenced in DPA Cards).*

Ojibway / Anishnaabe

*Nanabush and the Rabbit

*Nanabush and the Dancing Ducks

Nanabush and the Chipmunk

Nanabush and the Spirit of Thunder

Nanabush and the Skunk

Search for other stories about Nanabush, as many of them involve animals.

The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre in Timmins is a good resource for books and stories (www.occc.ca). If your school is in Nishnawbi-Aski (NAN) territory, you may be able to request resources for your school.

The Ojibway Cultural Foundation (www.ojibwayculture.ca) has a section of its web site called Nish Tales Walking and Talking with Nanabush, aimed at children. There are several stories on the web site currently, available in English and Anishnaabemowin (www.nanabush.ca).

Cree

*Weesakijak and the Weasel

Weesakijak and the creation of the world

Check out the Doug Ellis Audio collection. This site has numerous oral stories about beavers, spiders, bears, wolverines, mice, eagles, muskrat, otter and other animals. These stories are from the western coast of James Bay (www.spokencree.org/stories).

Look for other stories about Wee-sa-ki-jahk (various other spellings include Weesakiejak and Wisakedjak), as many of them involve animals.

The Ojibway and Cree Cultural Centre is a good resource for books and stories (www.occc.ca). If your school is in Nishnawbi-Aski (NAN) territory, you may be able to borrow resources.

David Bouchard is a Métis educator who offers many stories and resources to share. Check out his site (www.davidbouchard.com).



Haudenosaunee / Iroquois

*How the Bear Lost its Tail

Raccoon and the Crayfish

Haudenosaunee Creation Story

Why We Have Mosquitos

Big Bear

Three Sisters

Seven Dancing Brothers

The clan system is central to the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) culture. Look for stories that include these clan animals:

- Earth clans – bear, deer, wolf
- Water clans – eel, turtle, beaver
- Air clans – snipe, hawk, heron

The Woodland Cultural Centre is a good resource for books and stories (www.woodland-centre-on.ca).

Other good sources of information include www.iroquoismuseum.org and www.goodminds.com

