BIRDS and PEOPLE
The Indian Reading Series

Level I Book 11
THE INDIAN READING SERIES: Stories and Legends of the Northwest is a collection of authentic material cooperatively developed by Indian people from twelve reservations. Development activities are guided by a Policy Board which represents the Indian community of the Pacific Northwest. The Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program Policy Board members are:

- Warren Clements — Warm Springs
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THE INDIAN READING SERIES:
Stories and Legends of the Northwest

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A Crow Story

Written and illustrated by Henry Real Bird

Joseph Coburn, Director
Pacific Northwest Indian Program
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
This story was told to the author by his grandfather.
My children, come here.
On this ground there are many kinds of birds.
They are many colors.
Some are small and some are large.
Birds have homes, or nests, in many places. Some nests are on trees, some are in trees. Some nests are on the ground, some are in the ground. Still other birds have their nests on top of rocks, where it is difficult for enemies to reach.
Eagles and hawks can fly way up high.
They look for mice, rabbits, weasels
and other small animals to eat.
Birds of this type eat things that are alive
and that they have to kill.
Robins and meadowlarks can turn fast and fly close to the ground. They look for seeds, worms and bugs to eat.
Ducks and geese can fly high and for a long ways. These birds are usually near water. They go under water to eat grasses and roots. They also eat fruits and seeds.
Crows, magpies and jays can fly high or low.
They eat meat, seeds or roots.
They are thieves and steal dry meat and dry salmon.
Where each bird sits in a tree is different. The hawk sits at the top of the tree. When it wants to fly, it jumps up, then flies away during the day. It can act like a kite and have no weight.
Fly away

Then fly

Jump down

Side of Tree

Where each bird sits in a tree is different.
The owl sits at the side of the tree.
When it wants to fly, it jumps off,
then flies away at the end of the day.
Its stomach must feel like it is coming out of its mouth!
The sage hen has a large and long body.
When it flies, first it flutters and wobbles for awhile,
then quits and glides for awhile,
then flutters and wobbles again.
The hawk doesn't tell the owl it is going to break its neck because of its takeoff.
The owl doesn't tell the hawk it might break its neck because it glides way up high.
The sage hen doesn’t tell the chickadee not to twist and turn because it is too close to the ground. The chickadee doesn’t tell the sage hen not to wobble when it flies.
These birds fly the way they know how. They whistle the way they know how. They eat what they know and can get. Each bird has its own way of doing things. Each bird has its own color of feathers.
These birds are almost like Indians.
There are many kinds of Indian tribes.
They are not all the same.
They do things differently.
All birds fly differently, but they fly.
All Indian tribes live differently, but they live.
The Lummi, Skokomish, Muckleshoot and other Indian tribes live near the water or ocean. They use boats and travel on water. They eat a lot of fish, clams, oysters, crabs and lobsters. The Lummi speak their own language. The Skokomish speak their own language. The Muckleshoot speak their own language. All the others speak their own language. These are the Coast Indians.
The Umatilla, Nez Perce, Warm Springs, Yakima and other Indian tribes live between the Coast and Plains. They eat a lot of fish and deer. The Warm Springs speak their own language. The Nez Perce speak their own language. The Yakimas speak their own language. All the others speak their own language. These are the Plateau Indians.
Far away from the ocean and large rivers are the Plains Indians.
These are the Blackfeet, Sioux, Crow, Cheyenne and other Indian tribes.
These Indians eat a lot of buffalo, deer and antelope.
They don’t eat a lot of fish.
The Blackfeet speak their own language.
The Sioux speak their own language.
The Crow speak their own language.
The Cheyenne speak their own language.
All the others speak their own language.
These are the Plains Indians.
All birds do not sound or look alike.  
All Indians do not sound or look alike.  
Most eagles sound and look about the same.  
Most Crow Indians sound and look about the same.  
That is how it is.  
All people look about the same.  
Although some make a different sound,  
they do things the way they know how.
Booklets available in the Level I sequence are listed below. Numbers refer to the planned sequence of use as outlined in the Teacher’s Manual. Materials developed by these tribes and others in the Northwest will appear in the Levels II and III sequence.

1 Coyote and the Stars
   The Confederated Tribes of the
   Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

2 How Wild Horses Were Captured
   The Confederated Tribes of the
   Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

3 School
   Blackfeet Tribe

4 Philene and Buttons
   Northern Cheyenne Tribe

5 Insects Off to War
   Northern Cheyenne Tribe

6 Why Bluejay Hops
   Skokomish Tribe

7 Indian Festival
   Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the
   Fort Hall Reservation

8 Helpers
   Blackfeet Tribe

9 Far Out, A Rodeo Horse
   Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
   Commission

10 Tales of Coyote and Other Legends
    The Confederated Tribes of the
    Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

11 Birds and People
    Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
    Commission

12 Chipmunk Meets Old Witch
    The Confederated Tribes of the
    Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

13 My Name Is Pop
    Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
    Commission

14 Santa Claus Comes to the Reservation
    Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural
    Commission

15 How Cottontail Lost His Fingers
    The Confederated Tribes of the
    Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

16 Friends
    Blackfeet Tribe

17 How Daylight Came to Be
    Skokomish Tribe

18 A Little Boy’s Big Moment
    Blackfeet Tribe

19 Skunk
    Muckleshoot Tribe

20 Raven Helps the Indians
    Skokomish Tribe

For order information and prices of the above booklets and the Teacher’s Manual, contact the publisher:

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