Department of Chahta Immi

Department of Chahta Immi’s Mission Statement:

Chahta Immi tokisali at nanah mihchachikat,
Chahta Immi atokma anokfokkichit, annowachit, achonnachit, hayakachit isht oklilayachih.

DEPARTMENT OF CHAHTA IMMI

“Lifeways of the Choctaw People”

Tribal Archives  Choctaw Museum
Cultural Affairs  Tribal Language

Special Projects/ Media

Chahta Immi Cultural Center

The mission of the Department of Chahta Immi is to inspire, promote, embrace, and enhance the Cultural heritage of the Choctaw People.

* For more information please call (601) 663-7536 or the MBCI Office of Public Information at (601) 663-7532 and visit the MBCI website: www.choctaw.org

ILLIPA HOYOT
(LOOKING FOR FOOD TOGETHER)

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians ©2011

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When Raccoon woke up on one morning, the sun was shining bright. He stretched himself out in his cozy nest and yawned before going right back to sleep. He heard someone scratching on his door. Raccoon stuck his head under the dried leaves of his nest. "Maybe they'll go away," he thought. A few minutes later when he pulled his head out of the leaves to listen, he heard the scratching again. He sighed and got out of bed. When he opened a tiny crack at the door, he could see it was his friend opossum. Raccoon went out side into the warm sunshine.

Opossum had come to get Raccoon so they could go looking for breakfast together. The two animal friends were glad to see each other.

As they walked across the pasture on their way to the riverbank, raccoon is smiling to himself and thinking of the little fish he might catch at the river.

When they neared the riverbank, they saw two black snakes curled up on a rock. The snakes were napping in the sun. Raccoon and Opossum quickly and quietly ran past the napping snakes. Raccoon and opossum ran until they got to the river. They could hear the river splashing against the rocks on its banks as it moved along. It had rained the night before and the water was high and cold. Raccoon kept thinking about those little fish he was going to catch so he hurried along, Opossum had to run to keep up with his friend. By the time they reached the river, Opossum was panting.

There were two big rocks at the edge of the water so the two animal friends each jumped onto a rock and sat down. Opossum put his feet down into the water to cool. Raccoon immediately began to fish. In no time at all, he had caught four little fish and was busy washing them in the water beside his rock.

Opossum was thinking about how hungry he was as he sat there on his rock looking at the riverbank. Two persimmons dropped from a nearby persimmon tree onto the ground. Opossum smiled as he jumped up to get the persimmons. Raccoon had just finished his last fish and was washing his whiskers.

He turned around just in time to see Opossum jump from the rock onto two logs lying together at the edge of the river. Before Possum could jump from the logs to the bank, the logs moved under his weight. Suddenly, the fast moving water of the river pulled the logs away from the bank.

"I'm still hungry," opossum said to Raccoon. Raccoon stopped washing and looked at Opossum. Then he bent down and picked up two persimmons that had fallen out of the tree above them.

"These are for you to eat," said Raccoon "...after we get to my house." He turned and started back up the path that led through the pasture. Opossum sighed and got up from the grass. Raccoon was cold so he was hurrying to get home and Opossum had to run to keep up with his friend, but did stop for just a minute to grab three persimmons to eat on the way. He was hungrier than ever by the time this adventure was over with.