Stories and Legends

BOOK 9

Kanit Ki̱ta yat hasi̱bis patassa tobah tók.

DEPARTMENT OF CHAHTA IMMI

"Lifeways of the Choctaw People"

Kanit Kita yat hasibis patassa tobah tók.

BOOK 9

CHOCTAW TRIBAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Halítoh!

Kita yat hasibis patassa tobah tók
(How the beaver got its flat tail)

Story by Roseanna Thompson
Illustrated by Jay Wesley, 3/2007
Produced by the
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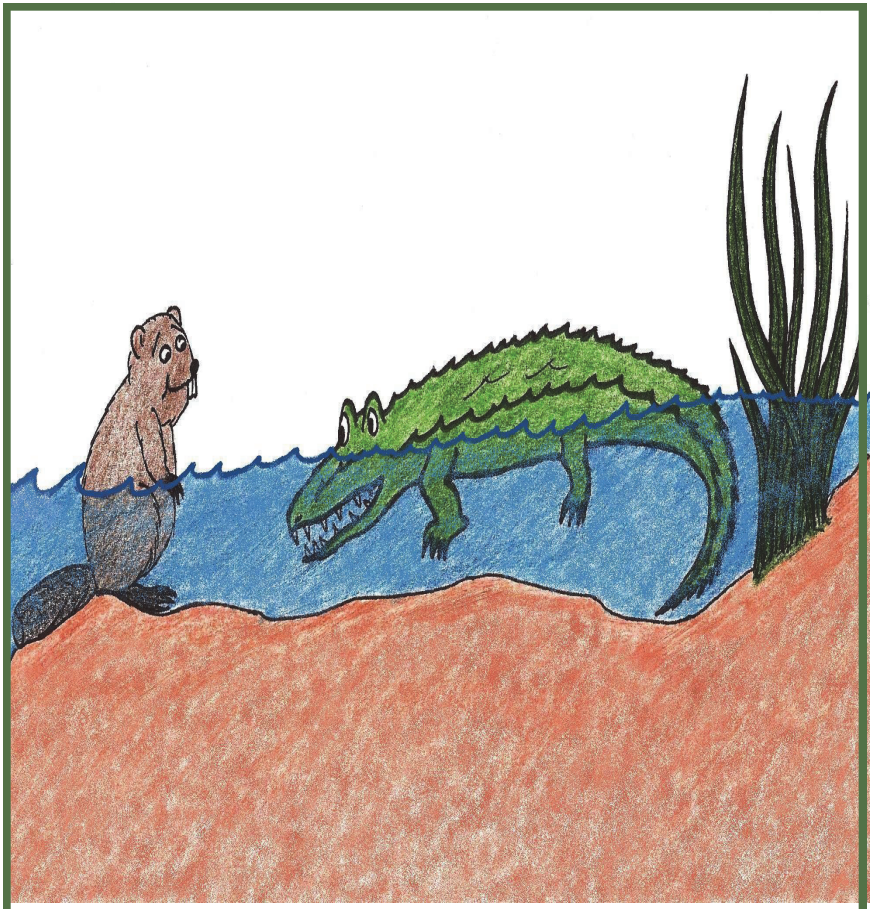
This collection of Choctaw Stories and Legends celebrates our rich history of using stories to teach moral values, to bring laughter and joy to our people, and to provide an insight to today's Choctaw culture.

Shokka Annopa kómikat kanaha kanit akchokmát mayáchika imábachih ki-yok mat kaniyómi kato pi yoppa ikbi yómih. Isht ika ak ósh shokka annopa anóli attók. Isht ika mat akchokmát atta, nokwiya iksho, hicha hopóyoksa ilawah okmako oklah atókolih íkattók. Himakno kanah at shokka annopa ok-lah annólih alhi kiyoh. Hih kiya shokka annopa kómika falámat hapim alla imanólit ikít oklah il ilhkólik ma Chahta annopa hakloh ósh maya hínah.

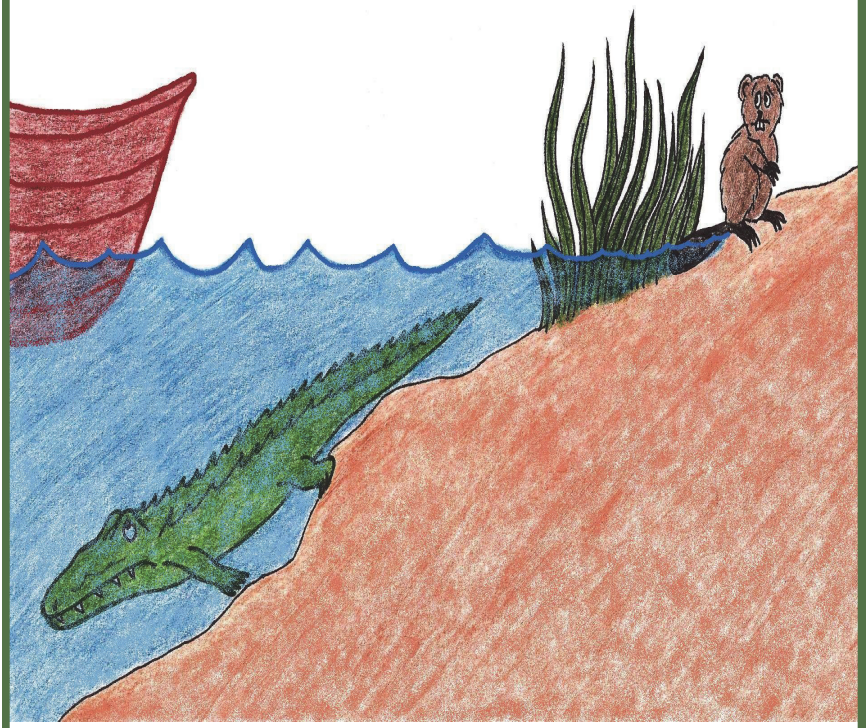
Chahta annopa ik hapi kaníyoh kiya!

ONCE UPON A TIME...



Himmona ka hachochobah hicha kita yat ittibá washóhah im achokma ahtók. Onnahili ayyokak ma okshinillit oka áwashóhah ósh ashwa ahtók.

(Once there was an alligator and a beaver who loved playing together. Every morning they would swim and play in the water.)



Kita ato hasibis at lobo chito átokósh wíkih chohmih átoko fohóbi (hofóbi) iyá híkiyo ahtók. Mak átokósh hattak at nani i takáchit ayat onak ma hachochobah ato fohóbi pit kaniyak ma, Kita ato shawwa álomah bíkah tok.

(The beaver had a big, round and heavy tail so he would never go in the deep area. So whenever a man came over to fish, the alligator would go into the deep as the beaver hid behind the seaweed.)

Mak átoko nittak himonna ka hattak mat oka píni fokkah ósh alhlhih ma onah tók. Kotcháchi tok ásh ná losa lobo yat shawwa nota ít hayaka ná pisah tók.

(One day a man riding in a boat came to the end of the water. He was going to get out but saw a black round thing behind the seaweed.)

Ná losa lobo ma pisah mat siti imahwah mat iti patassa ishi tok at ishit bólih tók.

(He thought the black round thing was a snake so he started beating it with the stick that he had.)

Hitok ako kita átok áchínish balílit oka alhlhi kotchah tók. Ihasibis at pichífat kaniya ósh saktih pit aboyyah tók.

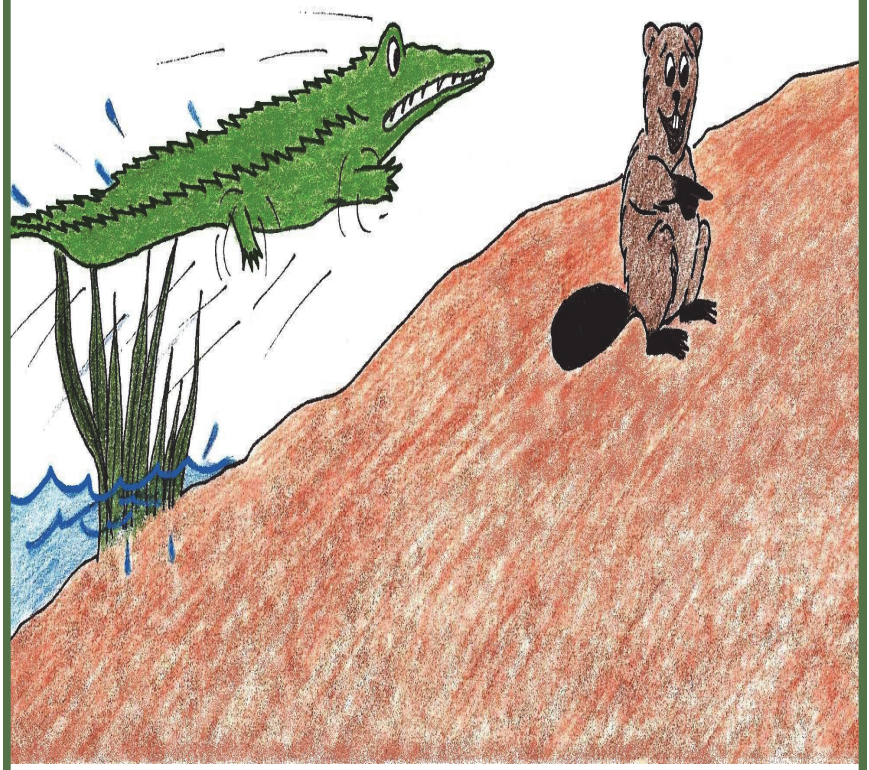
(But it was a beaver that ran out the edge of the water with a flattened tail. He (beaver) climbed up the bank.)

Hattak mat iti patassa ma íshicha, “Kotchalik mat issa málhalli átoko chi bóli lá chih ókat,” im áchi chá iyákayyah tók. Kita yat hachochobah ipayat “Siyá pilah!” im áchih tók.

(The man took the stick and said, “When I get out I will beat you for scaring me”, as he went after the beaver. The beaver called out “Help Me!” to alligator.

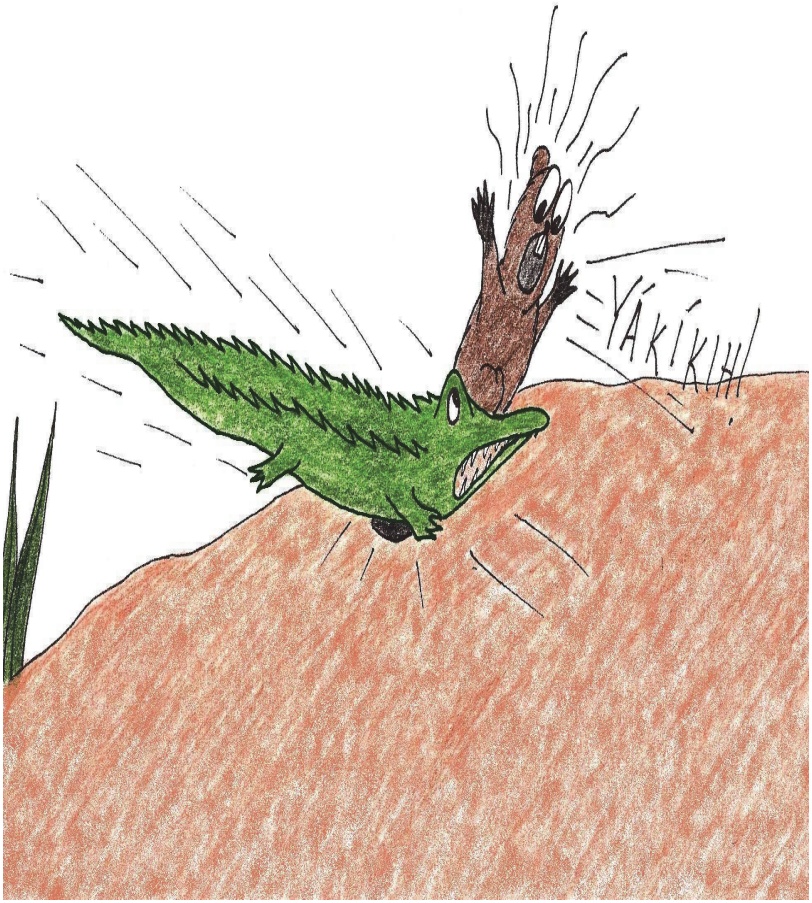
Mak ohma hachochobah at palhkit okshinillih ósh hattak ma omitih tók. Hattak mat hachochobah pisah mat balílih tók.

(So the alligator came swimming toward the man as fast as he could. When the man saw the alligator he ran.)



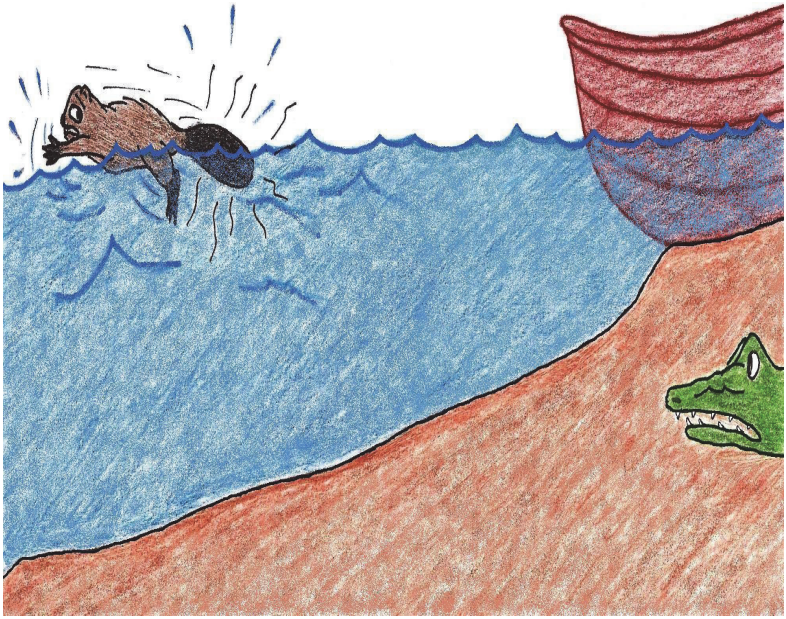
Hachochobah at palhki kat átapa tok ósh alhlhih ona kásh hikíya híkiyoh ósh hikat kotchah tók.

(The alligator was going too fast and could not stop that he flew out of the water.)



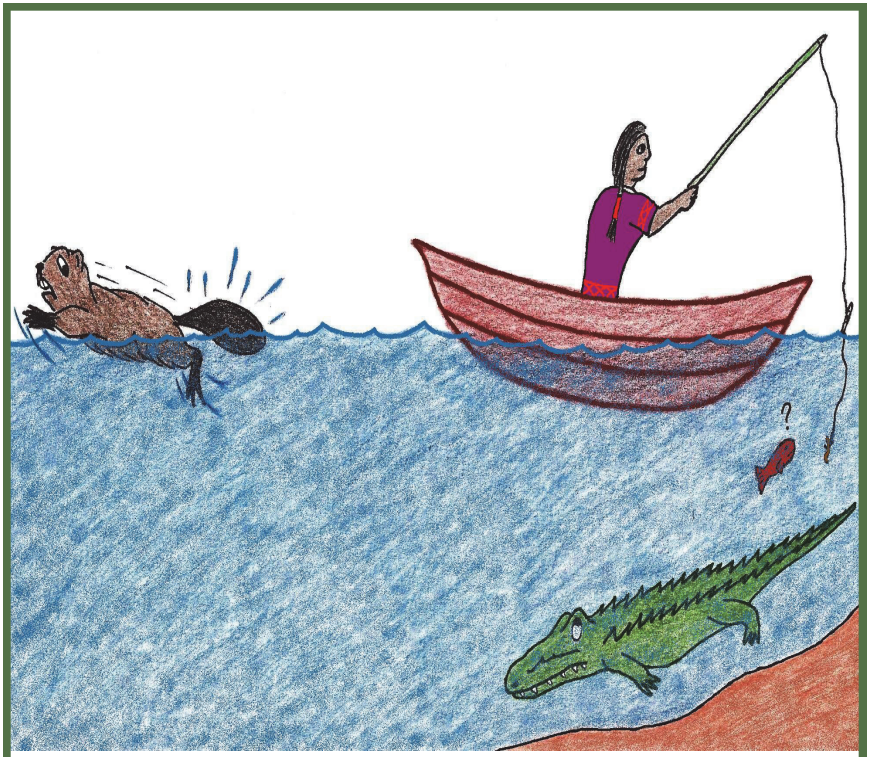
Abá takát kita ot onottolat hasibis ishalit patassalit kachih tók.

(When he flew out, he fell on the beaver's tail and flattened it some more.)



Kita yat nokshópah átapa tok ósh balílit oka ot chokkowah mat okshinillit fohóbi chikkósi onah tók.

(The beaver got so scared that he ran into the water and swam to the deep area real fast.)



Hasibis at patassa tobah mato okshinillih palhki tobah tók. Hikásh hachochobah hicha hattak i nokshópa tobah tók. Shawwa mák álomat issa chá i chokka oka anóka akinih áyikbi tobah tók.

Toff.

(Beaver became a fast swimmer since its tail had gotten flat, but is now afraid of alligators and men. He stopped hiding behind seaweed and now makes his home in the water. The End.)

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

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