



Department of Chahta Immi's Mission Statement:

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

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians ©2011



DEPARTMENT OF CHAHTA IMMI

"Lifeways of the Choctaw People"

Tribal Archives

Choctaw Museum

Cultural Affairs

Tribal Language

Special Projects/ Media

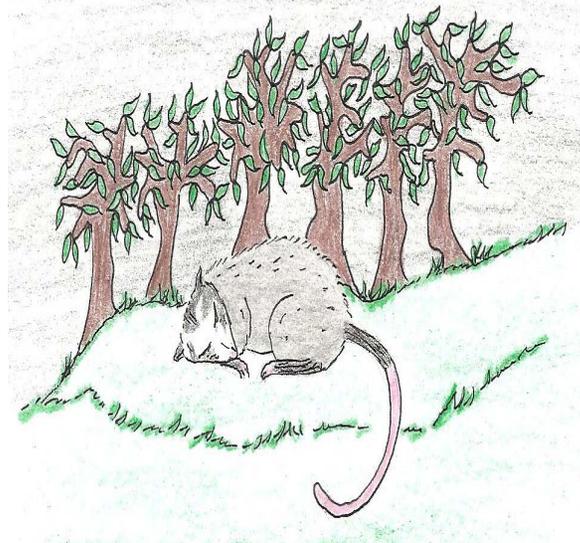
Chahta Immi Cultural Center

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) 663-7506 or the MBCI Office of Public Information at (601) 663-7532 and visit the MBCI website: www.choctaw.org

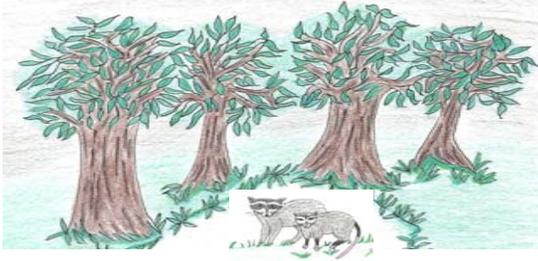


Why the Opossum



HAS A HAIRLESS TAIL

Why the Opossum Has a Hairless Tail

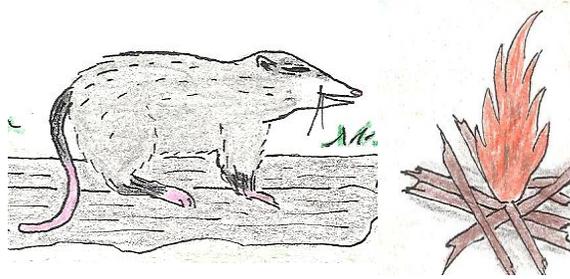


Once upon a time, a raccoon and a opossum met in the woods. The opossum had always admired the raccoon's tail, so the opossum asked the raccoon how he made the stripes on his tail. But, the raccoon did not want other animals to imitate him so he lied to the opossum. The raccoon told the opossum, "I gathered together some wood and built a fire. When the fire dies down and only hot ashes are left, I wrapped up my tail and placed it onto the hot ashes for a while and pulled it out. That is how I got the stripes on my tail."

So the opossum wanting a pretty tail did not wait around even a moment but went in a hurry to get his tail done exactly as the raccoon told him how.



The opossum gathered the woods together and started a fire.



When only the hot ashes were left the opossum wrapped up his tail and placed onto the ashes until his tail started to burn. It was very painful but he refuse to move his tail from the hot ash.



After awhile, the opossum took his tail out and saw the hair was all singed.



He was so embarrassed with his tail having no hair at all, that he hid in a hole in the tree and only travels at night.

