

NAPI

AND THE ROCK



NAPI AND THE ROCK

Enjoyable by all ages, this NAPI story also caters to a Level 3 "Eager Reader"

READER RANKINGS

We highly recommend this book for the:

1

PRE-READER

Ideal for sharing with emerging readers. ABC's and first words.

2

ROOKIE READER

Simple sentences for new readers. Sight words and words to sound out.

3

EAGER READER

High interest stories for the developing reader. New vocabulary and longer sentences.

4

SKILLED READER

Complex plots for confident readers. Reading for inspiration/information. A bridge to chapter books.

NAPI

THE TRICKSTER

How do you say NAPI?

Does it rhyme with HAPPY?

Does it rhyme with POPPY?

You can say it two different ways:

NAW-PEA

or

NUH-PEA

What does it mean?

NAPI is a Blackfoot word that means “Friend”

Who is NAPI?

A Blackfoot “trickster” that families have used as an educational tool for countless generations



**My grandpa was an amazing Blackfoot man.
He was a famous artist, author and community leader.
He was a renowned powwow dancer, drummer and singer.
He told me Napi stories to help me understand the world.
He told me Napi stories to help me understand values.
My grandpa was an amazing Blackfoot man.**

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“Man, this heat is just too wicked”, Napi says to himself, “It’s so hot, I just seen a coyote chasing a jackrabbit -- and they were both walking!”

Without a respite in sight, Napi has to do something ... and he needs to do it right now.

“Okay, now lemme think”, Napi thinks, “How can I cool off? I haven’t seen shade in weeks!”



***“TSSAA my buffalo robe, of course”,
Napi tells himself, “just too obvious of a
solution ... I gotta ditch this robe!”***

***The Rock timidly whispers, “Hey ... hey
... brother Napi ... guess what? ... I need a
robe to stay warm ... and, uhh, you have
a robe to give away ...”***

***“Say no more, it’s yours brother!” Napi
happily proclaims, “I don’t need this
heavy hide anymore.”***

**... and with that, Napi tosses his
buffalo robe onto The Rock**



“OH WOW! Thanks, you’re so generous”, said The Rock

“Think nothing of it ... it’s what I do”, says Napi, beaming with pride

... and with that, Napi continues on



A heavy snowfall suddenly starts ...

“GEEEZ ... this prairie weather is right crazy ... way too hot ... way too cool ... way too humid ... way too dry ... way too windy ... way too calm ... way too rainy ... way too sunny ... way too foggy ... way too snowy ... AND NOW I’M WAY TOO COLD!!!”, rants Napi

Napi knows exactly what to do ...



“Nevermind, imma just take this back.”,
Napi says as he rudely rips the buffalo
robe away from The Rock.

“Hey man ... what the? ... that ain’t
right”, says **The Rock**, all confused.

“Whatever, whatchu gonna do about
it? You’re just a Rock.”, taunts **Napi**.



“GEEZ ... who does that Rock think he is, anyways? ... I am the mighty Napi ... N-A-P-I ... dumb Rock should know better than to m-- ... wait, hold up ... what’s that incredibly loud rumbling rock sound?”, Napi mutters to himself.

The Rock rolls over Napi ...



“I have never known someone to take something back from a Rock!”, screams **The Rock**, ***“You should know better!”***

“But it's my robe!”, screams **Napi**

“You gave it to me!”, screams **The Rock**

“You're over-reacting!”, screams **Napi**

“I'm under-reacting!”, screams **The Rock**



“HHHEEELLPPP”, yells Napi, “GET ME OUTTA HERE!!!”

“Hey Maggie, check it out ... yaww, too funny ... it’s that brother Napi ... he’s in trouble ... once again ... think we should help him out, or just hang out here and giggle?”, one bird squawks to her buddy.

“YOU TWO, STOP LAUGHING AND HELP ME!!!”, yells Napi, “THE PAIN ... THE PAIN IS ... TREMENDOUS!!!”

“Okay, okay ... you heard him guys ... Napi needs us ... yet again ...”, Maggie squawks to the rest.



“COMMENCING OPERATION RESCUE NAPI AGAIN”, squawk the birds

“LESS SQUAWKING, MORE RESCUING!!!”, pleads Napi

***“Okay, you know the drill, peck away at The Rock”, squawks the bird leader,
“Peck ‘til you can’t peck anymore”***

“C’MON Y’ALL, GIMME A BREAK ... I’M JUST A ROCK!”, yells The Rock



**After 2 days and 6 hours and 47 minutes,
The Rock finally crumbles to a stop.
Napi is exhausted. The Rock is
exhausted. The birds are exhausted.**

***“Now you owe us, Napi”, the bird leader
says as they fly off, “we’ll be watching
you -- stay outta trouble”***

Napi sits there for awhile ...

**Napi thinks to himself, *“I’ve made a huge
mistake ... I betrayed a brother ... I gave,
then I took back ... I need to make this
right”***



***“My brother”, says Napi to The Rock,
“I was wrong. Thank for teaching me a
most powerful -- and painful -- lesson.
Please accept my buffalo robe as a gift,
and please forgive me for acting like an
idiot ... I am still learning”***

**Napi throws his prized buffalo robe back
onto The Rock ...**



“Man, this cold is just too wicked”, Napi says to himself, “I bet it’s colder than a polar bear’s toenail”

... and with that, Napi continues on



NAPI LESSONS

In this story, NAPI learns a painful lesson about sharing and gift giving. Ask yourself a few of these questions, and see if you learned some of the same powerful lessons I did:

When you offer something as a gift, is it okay to just take it back?

Why is sharing so important?

When you forget to share, and hurt someone's feelings, what can you do to make it right?

Why do people share things that are valuable to them? Have you ever done that?

Have you ever wanted to take back a gift you gave to someone? What did you do?

NAPI INSIGHTS

The setting for NAPI & The Rock is **Southern Alberta, Canada** and **Northern Montana, USA**

Known collectively as the **Blackfoot Confederacy** -- there are four distinct bands (groups): the **Siksika** (near Calgary, Alberta), the **Kainai** (near Lethbridge, Alberta), the northern **Piikani** (near Pincher Creek, Alberta) and the southern **Pikuni** (Browning, Montana)

NAPI & The Rock also tells the story of **how the random massive rock formations**, that you'll find scattered throughout the prairies, **came to be**.

You can actually visit the site of NAPI & The Rock -- there's even an info display and remnants of The Rock. Blackfoot people call it "Okotok" (big rock), but, **it's formally known as the "Okotoks Erratics"**. A short drive west of Okotoks, Alberta and you'll find it.



JASON EAGLESPEAKER

MY MOM IS BLACKFOOT AND MY DAD IS DUWAMISH.

I AM AN INDIGENOUS EDUCATION AUTHOR AND GRAPHIC NOVELIST.

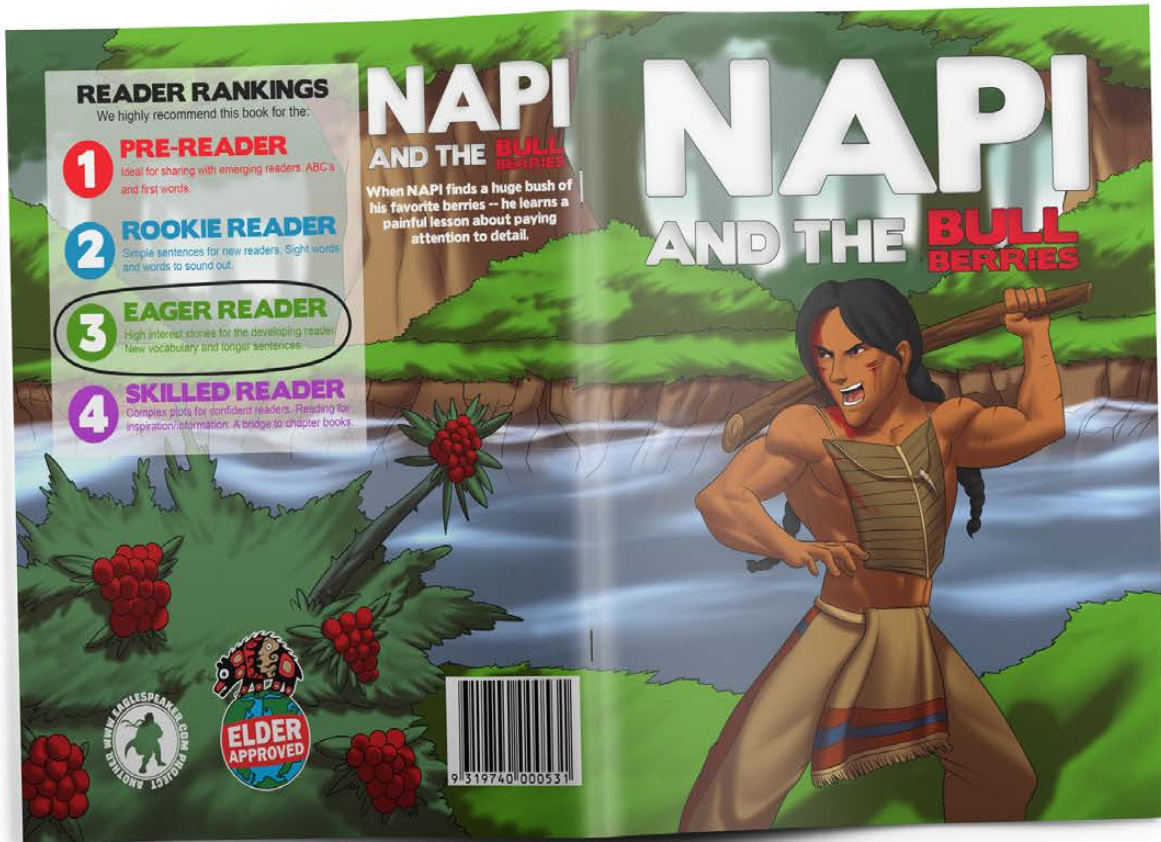
I AM ALSO A BOOK PUBLISHER AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR.

MY 'JOB' IS TO WAKE UP EVERYDAY AND BE CREATIVE.



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Your support helps more than you may realize. Thanks so much.



MUCH MORE TO ENJOY

AUTHENTICALLY INDIGENOUS NAPI STORIES:

- Napi and the Rock**
- Napi and the Bullberries**
- Napi and the Wolves**
- Napi and the Buffalo**
- Napi and the Chickadees**
- Napi and the Coyote**
- Napi and the Elk**
- Napi and the Gophers**
- Napi and the Mice**
- Napi and the Prairie Chickens**
- Napi and the Bobcat**
- ... and many more Napi tales to come**

AUTHENTICALLY INDIGENOUS GRAPHIC NOVELS:

- UNeducation: A Residential School
Graphic Novel**
- Napi the Trixster: A Blackfoot
Graphic Novel**
- UNeducation, Vol 2**

AUTHENTICALLY INDIGENOUS COLORING BOOKS:

- Napi: A Coloring Experience**
- UNeducation: A Coloring Experience**
- Completely Capricious Coloring Collection**
- A Day at the Powwow (grayscale coloring)**

AUTHENTICALLY INDIGENOUS KIDS BOOKS:

- Teeias Goes to a Powwow (a series)**

NAPI AND THE ROCK

When NAPI decides to give his buffalo robe away to a rock -- then takes it back -- he quickly learns a difficult lesson about the value of sharing.

Part of the NAPI children's book series.
You can find NAPI and other authentically
Indigenous resources online at:
WWW.EAGLESPEAKER.COM

