

Tennis Time!

Story By: Andrew Frinkle



Cara played tennis. It was her favorite sport. She really enjoyed all kinds of similar sports, like ping pong, volleyball, and badminton, but she really liked tennis the most. There was something about running back and forth on that green court and delivered a great backhanded return that really made her smile.

Tennis requires only a net, a racket, and some tennis balls. Tennis is played in singles or doubles. It is very much like badminton that way. If you have a wall, you can practice against yourself, returning the bouncing balls. You can also practice in an empty court, just serving a bucket of balls, or practicing against a machine that launches tennis balls your way (sort of like a batting machine for baseball).

Tennis is about serving and returning. Someone serves the ball, and the other player(s) have to return it from the other side of the net. The object is to get the ball to touch the

One day I was playing along a creek that ran through the woods I lived in. I was eating crayfish, bugs, and other creatures that lived along the river. It was a lazy, sunny day, so I was having a great time of it, sitting upon a rock in the sun. It was as close to perfect as a day can get, and that meant the peace had to be broken somehow or maybe by someone, right?

A hunter happened through the woods. Most hunters preferred to use snares, foothold traps, or cage live traps to catch animals for furs. Foxes have luxurious and beautiful furs, so we are often hunted for them. This particular hunter was armed with a bow and arrow, which meant he was generally looking for boars or deer, but he didn't seem to mind going after a fox. I was just resting in the sun on a warm rock when he stumbled across the creek and saw me.

Immediately, my head shot up. I was angry at myself for being so careless. My mother had taught me better! I darted to the side, making it into the bushes as an arrow pierced the air where I'd just been. The human had seemed as surprised as me to come across a fox, but he had wasted no time shooting arrows at me!