

Name : _____ Date : _____

The Legend of the Dreamcatcher

Long ago, the Ojibwe people told a story about a wise grandmother named Nokomis. She cared for many children in her village. One day, she noticed that the children were having bad dreams at night.

Nokomis wanted to help. As she sat outside her home, she watched a spider carefully weaving a web between two tree branches. The web was strong and beautiful. The spider worked slowly and carefully.

Nokomis had an idea. She bent a small willow branch into a circle and tied a web inside it using string. Then she hung feathers from the bottom. She placed the dreamcatcher above a child's bed.

The Ojibwe people believed that good dreams could pass through the center of the web and gently float down the feathers to the sleeping child. Bad dreams would become trapped in the web and disappear when the morning sun rose.

Soon, many families in the village made dreamcatchers for their children. The dreamcatcher became a symbol of protection, hope, and peaceful sleep.

Today, dreamcatchers are still known around the world and remind people of this special Ojibwe legend.

SHORT ANSWER

1. Why did Nokomis want to help the children?

2. Where did Nokomis hang the dreamcatcher?

3. What could pass through the center of the web?

4. What happened when morning came?

5. What does the dreamcatcher symbolize?
