ELED 3113  
Fall 2018  
Hayley Nowlin

The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush

Author: Tomie dePaola

Illustrator: Tomie dePaola

Genre: Folklore

Awards: none

Multicultural: Yes

Summary

Long ago, a boy named Little Gopher lived on the Great Plains. Although he always tried to keep up with the other boys in the tribe, he just couldn't. Since he was not destined to be a warrior, Little Gopher had to find his own special place among his people. His talents as an artist enabled him to appreciate available resources and to see the beauty of colors, sunsets, and his environment.

Personal Reflection

I really liked this book because it focused on the sensitivity of the boy, instead of the boy being a warrior like the other boys in his tribe. It’s important for little boys to know that they can have feelings and be sensitive instead of being rough and tough all the time. I also liked how this story focused on the land, because it’s important to have stories for children about the conservation of land and what not.

Activity

After Reading the book, *The Legend of the Indian* Paintbrush, I will have the students experiment with paint and a paintbrush. I will provide paper, watercolors, and easel paintbrushes (large, fat brushes). I will tell my students to dip the large brush into the paint, and dab it on paper. (The brush would be used like a sponge in sponge painting.) Using this technique, the students can create their own pictures of the Indian Paintbrush flowers.

Source: Teacher made