

Wise Owl's Day

A Pomo Native American Story

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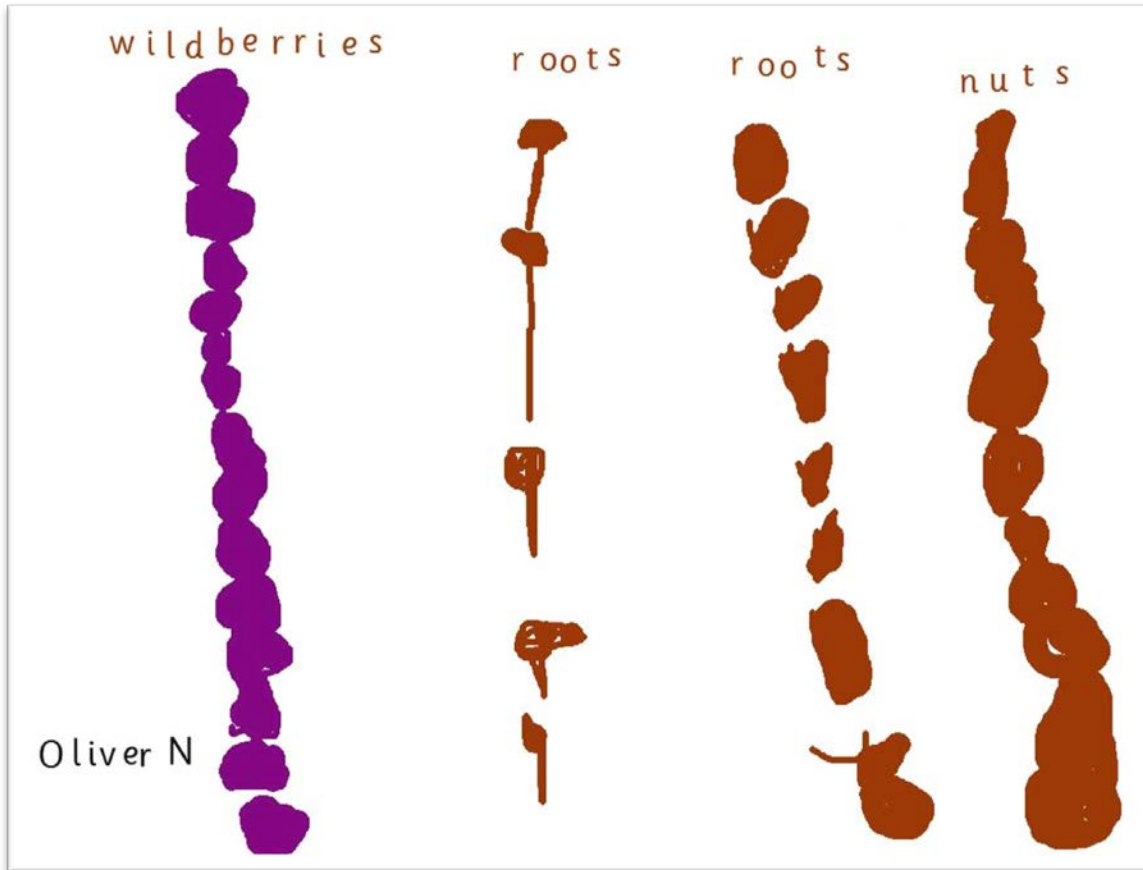
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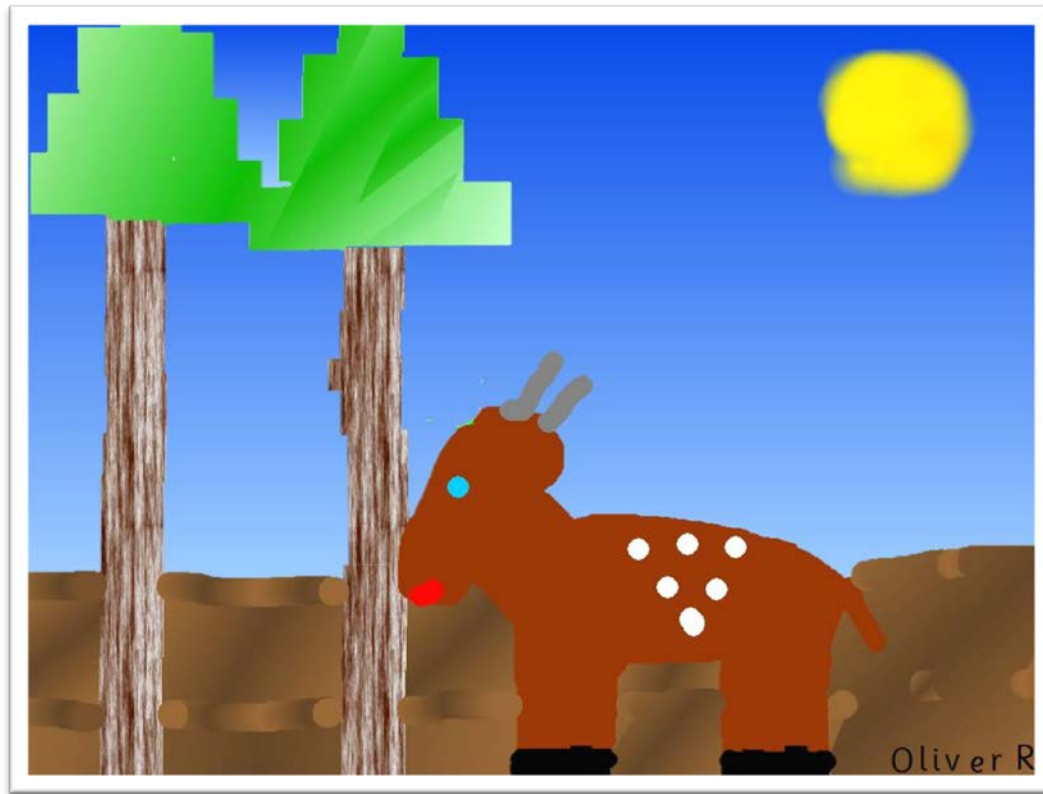
Hi, my name is Wise Owl. I live in my multi-family house in the **Great Basin** region with my sister, Leaping Deer, my brother Big Bear, my mother, father, and my grandma. We are Pomo Native Americans. Where we live there are deserts, some swamps, some forests and we can walk to the mountains and ocean. We live near the **Pacific Coast**. My home is made of willow branches and vines.



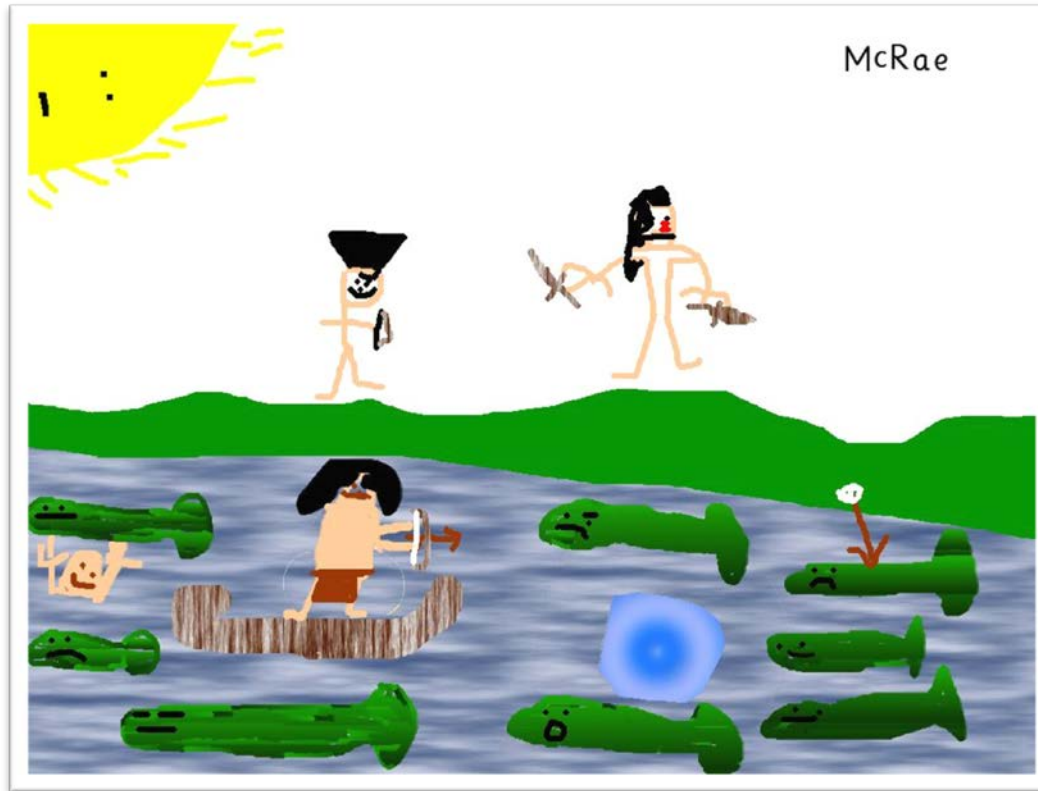
It is early morning and I think I'm the first one up today. I can see all the fish we caught this summer hanging to dry from a shelf above. I see the fire still burning in the middle of our house. I must be quiet so I don't wake up my family or the other family sharing this home. I was curious where I was going to hunt today. I think he just woke up, so I will ask father. He said we will hunt in the woods and then fish at the lake. Big Bear will join us.



Before we leave, mother is preparing food for us. She is cooking fish and mush. They are in baskets with water and she puts very hot rocks in the water to cook it.



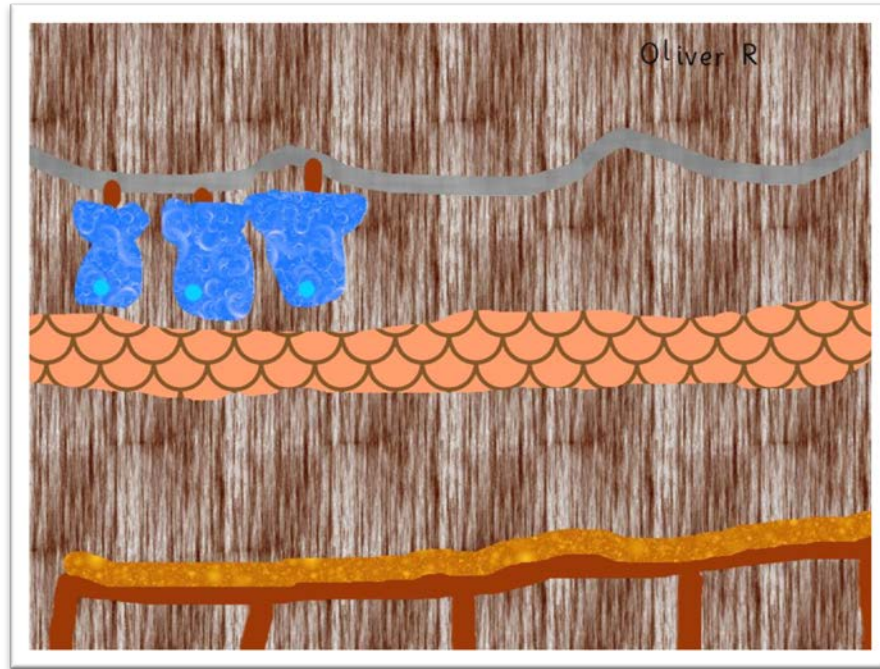
Soon we left for the hunt... There were squirrels, rabbits, and turkeys everywhere! I was quiet. I saw a rabbit. I shot it with my bow and arrow. At the end we caught 3 squirrels and 1 rabbit. Big Bear wasted his time chasing a turkey, then he crashed into a tree, then I shot the turkey with my arrow.



It was now the afternoon so we went to the river. It was packed with fish. We went in our canoe. I waited for the perfect chance to get a large pike with my spear. I also got three normal sized salmon. Big Bear wanted to catch a seal but he has to wait to go to the ocean. On our way home we checked the snares we had put out. We had gotten a bird so I took that, too.



When we finally got home mother and Leaping Deer had also just come home from picking corn for dinner. While mother was making dinner, Leaping Deer and I went outside and played racket ball. Later it was time for dinner. It looked delicious! I saw the rabbit and the squirrels we caught earlier. The turkey was in the cooling room. All the food was great but the best was the corn, it was so sweet and delicious. I ate a lot of stuff.



When it was time to go to bed my mother gave me a bunny fur blanket because I did such a good job hunting! I went to my fur mat. I looked up and a seed beater basket was hanging over me. I looked around and saw Grandma tucking in Leaping Deer and I also saw Big Bear making a new ball for racket ball. It was made out of a deer knuckle. I also saw mother making snacks for tomorrow when we would head to the ocean. I can't wait for tomorrow, I hope I see a seal.