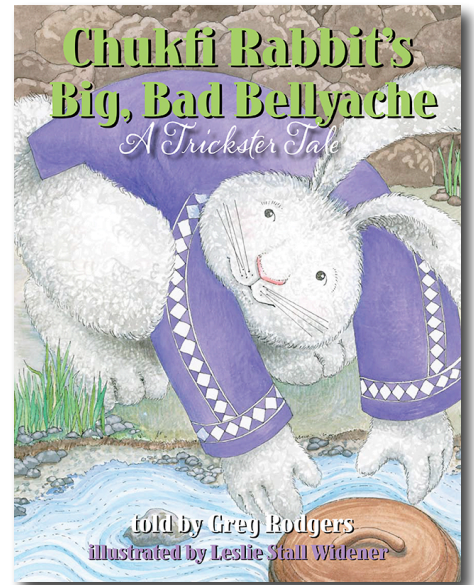


TEACHER'S GUIDE

CHUKFI RABBIT'S BIG, BAD BELLYACHE

A Trickster Tale

Told by Greg Rodgers
Illustrated by Leslie Stall Widener



Chukfi Rabbit is lazy and hates to work. When a friend asks him to help build a house, Chukfi Rabbit tricks everyone in his community into thinking he is sick. Then as he hides down by the river, he eats all of the butter for everyone's lunch. Chukfi convinces the community that it is Nita Bear who is guilty. In the end, the members of the community figure out who really ate the butter and Chukfi Rabbit has to face the consequences of his actions.

The story of Chukfi Rabbit is an old Choctaw story, probably transcribed in the late 1930s. It was discovered by storyteller Greg Rodgers when he was doing research at the Oklahoma History Center. Greg Rodgers is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. *Chukfi Rabbit's* illustrator Leslie Widener is also of Choctaw ancestry. To find out more about the Choctaw Nation, click [here](#).

The following questions are aligned with CCSS standards for literature for Grades 2-3. You will find the corresponding standard after each question.

Before Reading Questions:

1. How do you think Chukfi Rabbit gets a bellyache? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7)
2. Why do you think Chukfi is wearing a purple shirt with diamond trim? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.7)
3. What do you think will happen in the story? Predict what you think will cause Chukfi's bellyache. (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.3.1)
4. Why do you think the rabbit is called Chukfi? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4)

During Reading Questions:

1. What does it mean when the author writes, “Blink once and it will be gone.”? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4)
2. Why does Chukfi Rabbit decide to help Ms. Shukata Possum? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3)
3. Why do you think that Chukfi Rabbit says he is sick when he feels just fine? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1)
4. What do you think will happen when Chukfi Rabbit’s friends see that the butter is gone? Why? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1)
5. Is Chukfi telling the truth when he says, “Oh, I’m so sad...I missed all the work” to Ms. Shukata Possum? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3)
6. Why does Chukfi Rabbit try to blame Nita Bear? What would you do if you were in Chukfi’s place? In Nita Bear’s? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.1, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3)

After Reading Questions:

1. Why does Chukfi Rabbit have two names? (CCSS.ELA.Literacy.RL.2.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2)
2. Why do you think some of Chukfi’s friends wear T-shirts and jeans while others wear more traditional clothes? Give an example of a time where you wore special clothes. Why did you dress that way? Why might the Choctaws sometimes wear different kinds of clothes? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.7)
3. What happens first, next, then and last in the story? (CCSS.Literacy.RL.2.5, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1)
4. How would you describe Chukfi Rabbit? Is he different or the same from his friends? How do you know? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3)
5. What do you think Chukfi Rabbit learned in the book? Which scene from the book makes you think that is true? Do you think he will try to trick his friends again? Why? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.(CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.2,CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.5)
6. Do you think Chukfi’s friends will trust him again? Would you trust Chukfi Rabbit? (CCSS.ELA-RL.2.6, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.6)
7. What is the lesson of the story? How do you know? (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.2, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2)