

A. Read the passage.

How Do You Catch a **Dream?**

It is a Native American legend that a dream catcher can help stop nightmares or bad dreams. Ancestors of Native Americans made the frame of the dream catcher from red willow wood twisted into the



shape of a circle, snowshoe, or teardrop. A web with an opening in the centre, made from plant cordage (plant fibres twisted together) or sinew (animal tendons), was woven inside the frame. It was customary to hang owl or eagle feathers from it as a sign of breath or air.

There are several variations to the origin story for the dream catcher. One Ojibwe legend speaks of a tribe member named Asibikaashi, who busily wove dream catchers for all the new babies in the tribe. They were hung over the babies' cradles so that they would sleep peacefully. When the Ojibwe Nation spread across the continent, Asibikaashi could not travel to provide all the new babies with dream catchers, so the infants' mothers, sisters, and grandmothers continued to practise the tradition.

Another Ojibwe legend tells of a grandmother who was sewing while a nearby spider was weaving a web. When her grandson came by, he noticed the spider and was about to kill it, but the grandmother stopped him. When the boy left, the spider thanked the woman and gave her a gift in gratitude. It was a magical web that allowed good dreams to be remembered and bad dreams to be forgotten.

The dream catcher was usually hung over a sleeping area, in a place where it would be exposed to the morning sun. Dreams were attracted to the web. The good dreams travelled through the centre hole and slid down the feathers, into the thoughts of the sleeping individual. The bad dreams, however, got entangled in the web and disintegrated with the light of the morning sun.

Although Native American dream catchers originated many years ago, they still create a safe haven for dreamers of all ages and cultures.

B. Check the sentences that are true.

- The dream catcher traps bad dreams and allows them to be remembered.
 -) Asibikaashi made dream catchers for the infants of her tribe.
 - One legend tells of a grateful spider that gave a magical web to the woman who saved its life.
 -) Dream catchers were traditionally made from red maple wood.
-) Owl or eagle feathers were hung from the dream catcher.
 - One material used to make dream catchers is sinew (or plant fibres twisted together).
- C. Find three words from the passage for each category.

Words with...



Grade 5-6





F. Write the positive, comparative, and superlative forms of the adjectives.

