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## The Wise Old Man and His Nephew.

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THE Iroquois Indians tell a story concerning a wise old man and his nephew who lived with him.

The old man was always trying to teach his nephew wisdom, but his manner of teaching was such that the nephew seldom could understand what the old man was driving at. One day the uncle said: "Now you are a young man. You must go to the forest and hunt for game to support us. Bring back a deer or a bear."

The young man went. He killed a deer and brought it home.

"I should like to go hunting every day," said he to his uncle, as he laid the deer at the entrance of the lodge.

"All right, you may hunt every day," replied the uncle, "but next time bring home a bear. If you see a hole in a tree and the marks of a bear's claws, you may be sure of the bear."

So one day, when the youth was hunting he saw a tree with a hole in it and the marks of a bear's claws upon the bark. The old man, who accompanied his nephew, teaching him how to hunt, said: "I believe that a bear is inside of the tree. We must knock on the outside of the tree and make the bear uneasy, so that he will come out to see what the noise is all about."

So they hit the trunk of the tree hard many times and made a great racket, until the bear, being disturbed, came to the mouth of the hole and asked: "Who is there?"

"Now," cried the uncle to the young hunter, "shoot where I tell you; shoot where there is no hair and you will certainly kill him."

The young man saw that the paws of the bear were without hair, and he shot at them, hitting the right forepaw. This wounded the bear and made him angry, but of course did not kill him. "Shoot again!" cried the uncle, and the young hunter shot again and hit the other forepaw.

"Shoot there!" screamed the uncle, pointing with his finger. Thereupon the nephew shot the point of the finger off.

The old man's finger hurt him so that he pursed up his lips and motioned with them to direct the shooting of the boy, but the nephew, misunderstanding, shot the uncle through the lips.

Then the bear came down from the tree and made off into the woods, while the uncle explained as best he could, that he had been trying to direct the boy to shoot the bear under the forelegs.