

The Fire

The smoke from the fire curled around Little Fox's head. He choked and fanned the smoke away. "Just once I wish I could go on a hunt with Father and the other men," he said.

White Cloud, Little Fox's mother, looked up from her bed of animal skins. She smiled at the small boy crouched over the fire.

"Then who would take care of me, Little Fox?" White Cloud asked. "Who would keep the fire going?"



32

Silent and Oral Reading

Page 32

Read the page silently to find out what problem the boy and woman are talking about.

- ▶ [literal] What is the boy's name? Little Fox What is his mother's name? White Cloud
- ▶ [interpretive] How does Little Fox feel about the hunting trip? He is disappointed because he is not allowed to go with the men. Read aloud a part of the story that tells us.

- ▶ [interpretive] How does White Cloud feel about Little Fox staying at home with her? Elicit that she thinks it is a good idea because she needs help at home, and someone needs to keep the fire going. Read aloud White Cloud's words. Make your voice sound like a comforting mother's voice.
- ▶ [literal] Where is White Cloud resting? on a bed of animal skins
- ▶ [interpretive] What does it mean that Little Fox is "crouched over the fire"? Answers will vary, but elicit that he is close to the fire; he is bent over it.
- ▶ [interpretive] Where do Little Fox and White Cloud live? in a cave

[critical] Do people today usually live in caves? no

[critical] Where do people usually live now, in our present time? possible answers: houses or apartments

Explain that in the past, or at different times in history, people have lived in caves or have used caves as shelters. During Bible times some homes were caves. It is possible that the stable that Jesus was born in was a cave near the inn.