



THE SEVEN DANCERS

Many years ago, several Iroquois children formed a secret society. Near the lake, they would build their council fire and dance to the songs of their water drum.

One day, it was suggested by the Chief that they hold a feast at the next council meeting. All of them were to ask their parents for food to bring to the feast. Each boy was asked to bring something different, such as corn, venison, beans, and other food.

Each boy asked his mother for the desired food but was refused. Their mothers said that they had enough to eat at home and should not have to take food out of the house, while others said they were wasting food.

With empty hands and saddened hearts, they returned to the dancing grounds. That night, they were very unhappy because of the refusal by their parents to bring food.

The Chief said, "Never mind, we will show our parents it is not right to refuse us. We shall dance away." So the dancers started to dance along with the Chief.

They were all instructed not to look back if their parents called them. The singer picked up his water drum and began singing and the dancing began.

As they continued to dance, the boy's hearts became light, as did their feet, and all their troubles seemed to vanish. The drumming and singing became faster and soon they felt themselves dance into the night sky. Their parents saw them dancing above and called for them to return. One of the boys looked back and he became a falling star.

Seven of them reached the sky and became the stars in the Big Dipper, as it is known today. The one who was singing became the faintest of the group.

Today, these boys continue to dance in the night sky. When the old people see the shooting star, they tell this story of the Seven Dancers to the children.

KIDS PAGE

- anyone
- astronaut
- bees
- crying
- glasses
- Indians
- kitchen
- nothing
- pounds
- rest
- rooster
- sandwich

ACROSS Write the correct word in the blanks and then in the puzzle.

2. When I say I have _____, I mean I don't have anything.
5. Someone who explores outerspace is called an _____.
7. My baby sister is _____ because she is hungry.
9. _____ make the honey I eat on toast.
10. Would you like some mustard on your _____?
12. The fat lady weighed over 300 _____.

DOWN

1. Did you hear the _____ crow early this morning?
3. Tim can't read without his _____.
4. Most people do their cooking in the _____.
6. If you are so tired, why not go _____ for a while?
8. _____ were living in America before others came.
11. This puzzle is so simple _____ can do it.



If you follow the right path you will find 4 animals (in Mohawk).

start

finish