

Small Number and the Basketball Tournament Story

Poksskaaksini Itsinssiwa Ki'tsa'komootsiisini
(*Blackfoot Translation*)

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Story Transcript: English and Blackfoot

Poksskaaksini Itsinssiwa Ki'tsa'komootsiisini



Maa Poksskaaksini iikatsiskiiwa.

Small Number is a young boy who gets into a lot of mischief.

Itsstsoapii ami aakaitapisko.

He lives in a big city.

Ihpokitaopiimii oksissta kii ami onssta, Mattsowookstaksini.

He lives with his mother and his older sister Perfect Number.

Nato'kiiksistsiko'si maa Poksskaaksini itaitapoowa ami Niitsitapiiwa

Otsitaohkannohpi'aawa.

Twice a week, after school, he goes with his friends to the Aboriginal Friendship Centre.

Ohpokoomiwa amiksi otakaiksi.

He goes with his friends.

Ai'tto'tosaawa itai'naksooyiiaawa, kii ita'po'tsimmiaawa amiisti naapiookstaksini.

When they get there they have a snack, then they work on mathematics.

Anno'ko'takohsini niitaisama'po'takiyaawa.

Half an hour they work.

Toksskaistsi ita'po'tsimiaawa okstakiaapo'taksini kii maa Poksskaaksini ikaiyahssikahtsi "Set".

Sometimes they work on math games. Small Number likes to play "Set".

Ikaittaami'tsima otaikkamohkooniisi nitsipo'takohto'piaawa.

He enjoys finding patterns.

Ohkanaisskitsimiwa otsikohtsimaiksi.

He always beats his friends!

Amiiksi saahkomaapiiksi isstohkannaitaami'tsimiaawa ki'tsa'komootsiisini.

What the boys like the most is playing basketball.



Itawaakomootsiyaawa ami itawaakomootsiyo'pa.

They play at the Centre's gym.

Niisoo amitsi itaisapohkomio'pistsi.

There are four basketball hoops in the gym.

Amiiksi sahkomaapiksi akohtsiinaksissitapiiyaawa ami itawaakomootsiyo'pi.

The boys use a fraction of the court.

Naa Poksskaaksini isstohkanaikkaksiwa amiiksi otohpokakomootsimaiksi kii iksikkamsiwa.

Small Number is the shortest boy in his group, but he is very fast.

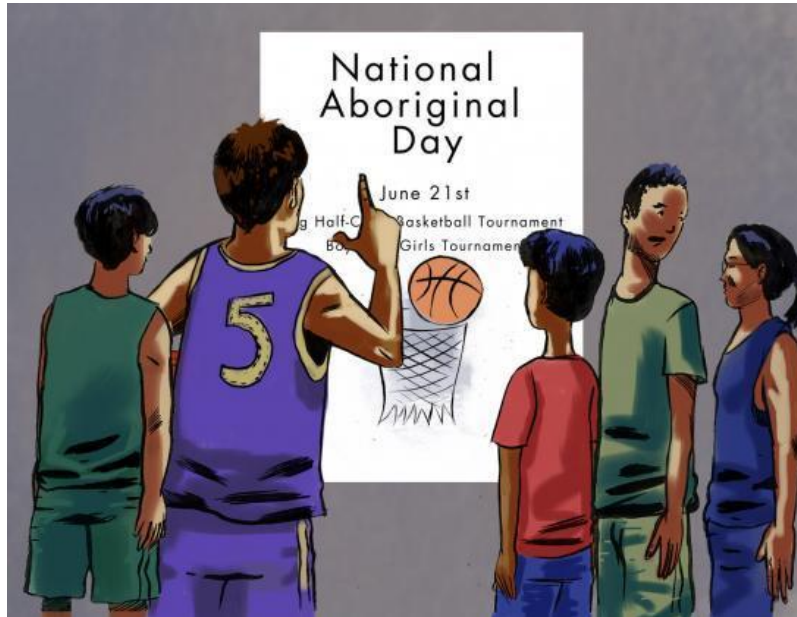
Ikaiyikakima mahkohkitsiissto'tsikammssii amii otsitsowa'pakkaawa

Omahko'taksskaksini kianniya isstohkanaikkammssiwa.

He tries hard to be as good a player as his best friend Big Circle, who is the biggest boy on the team.

Niitsitapiiksi otsitaiksisstikomato'piaawa otsiitsitapiikoanso'waawayi aakitomahkakomootsiyo'pa ki'tsa'komootsiisini kii amiiksi saahkomapiksi aista'yaawa mahkitsinnsa.

On National Aboriginal Day there will be a basketball tournament and the boys want to enter it.



Amiiksi akaakomootsiiksi naoao aakanistsitapiya iitomanistohkimmaiksi kii nioksaitapiiksi aakaistsooksasiya.

Each team must have six players but only three players play at once.

Naa Poksskaaksini naamanistsiitaapi aakohpokohkimmamiwa.

There are only five boys in Small Number's group of friends.

Amiiksi saahkomapiksi ihsitomatapiipo'yiyaawa ami otaakamohpiaawa mahkohkitohsaapanistsiitapiihpiaawa.

The boys start talking about who they might ask to be their sixth player.

Maa Omahko'taksskskaksini itaniiwa, "Aakksstinaapssapio'pa maa matapii isspitaawa, ikammsiwa kii aohkinnohkommiwa."

Big Circle says, "We need somebody who is tall, fast, and a good shooter!"

Amiiksi saahkomapiksi ihkaanaisapiitsiyyaawa kakitsaissksini'miayaawa ami itsitooma otaakkamohpiaawa.

All the boys agree, but they can't think of anyone to join their team.

O'toahkiassini maa Poksskaaksini ami oksissta otsitohkoissksino'ka otsshohtsissii kii otsinsspapsini.

When Small Number comes home his mom notices that he is quieter than usual.



Otsitaisopowahtsiisakkaiyi, “Iikiaapiwa?”

“What happened?” she asks.

Aiyisstsiwatsi ami Poksskaaksini otomahtaipoisai manistohkoyihpiaawa.

She listen to Small Number’s answer.

Aiksistsistsiwatsi ami Poksskaaksini, ami oksistaa itsistsikksskiaakiiwa: “Ikksooksiwa? Isspitaawa? Kii ikohkinnohkommiwa? Aahkammitstsi’pa annahkiaya aiyakssksino’wa?”

After listening to Small Number his mother smiles, “Good? Tall? Fast? And a good shooter? I think we both know a person like that!”

Ai’tappssapiiwa ami onnssta Mattsowookstaksini Maanaiksista’po’tsimma amistsi otsinakiapo’taksini, oksstakiapo’taaksini.

She looks at his sister Perfect Number who is just finishing her math homework.

“Na’aa, kitsikakomimma!”

“I love you, mom!”

Maa Poksskaaksini anniwa kii attatto’to’yiwa mii oksistaa.

Small Number says and he hugs his mom tightly.

Maa Mattsowookstaksini aiyssammiwaaiksi skaisoimmitsitakiiwa.

Perfect Number looks at them, very puzzled.



**Nii mattsiksistsiko maa Poksskaaksini itannistiiwa amiksi otakkaiksi,
“Ahkonnsopohtsisataawa naa ninssta Mattsowookstaksini?”**

The following day Small Number says to his friends, "Why not ask my sister, Perfect Number?"

“Kii, akiikoan!” Maa Omahko’taksskaksini, oisskitsipahp nitsikkammohpi.

“But she is a girl!” says Big Circle, feeling his heart beating a bit faster.

“Aa kitsimaani akiikoan kii ikksipitaawa, ikksikammisiwa, kii iikohkinohkomii!” Amiksi saahkomapiksi ni’tsikkakoisskayaawa.

“Yes, she is a girl but she is also tall, fast, and a good shooter!” the boys respond in one voice.

“Naa Mattsowookstaksini kammitsinaako’mo’tsiisi aakitsitsstisipa naatsipii amiksi isstakomootsiiksi kii mataakitsstisipa iisistsikoowa!”

“With Perfect Number playing with us,” continues Small Number, “we can have twenty different teams on the court and nobody is ever going to get tired!”



Maa Omahko'taksskaksini aksstskskinniwa. Kii itaniwa, "Tsa akanistakkohto'pa moitsihka okstakiisinaakiatsisti?"

Big Circle scratches his head and he says, "How can you calculate things like that?"

"Kii nitsitohkannaikkammssa, nitaakstsinaawako'mo'tsi nimataako'no'waissiko'pihpa."

"And, since I'm the best player, I have to play all the time!"

"Kianni kamaakanistsiisi, aakohkotsikaksikipitapiiyi amiksi aipo'takomo'tsiiksi kii kitsikakkomimmo'ka!"

"In that case, we can have ten different teams on the court... And she likes you too!"

Maa Poksskaaksini aisskiyimmiwa kitsiistapokksskasiwatsiwa mii Omahko'taksskaksini, issko'kiitakkiwa. Miiksi otakkaiksi itahkannaomatapikkohsi'takiiyaawa.

Says Small Number as he runs away from a very angry Big Circle while their friends start laughing.



**Tsa nitssksinimma naa Poksskaaksini kamitsinaakomo'tsiisii nii onnssta
Mattsoowookstaksini kii niiksi otakkaiksi naatsipii amiiksi ihkanohkiimaiksi
aakohotaakomo'tsiiyi aipo'tako'mo'tsiisa?**

How does Small Number know that if Perfect Number were to play with him and his friends,
they would be able to have twenty different teams on the court during the tournament?