

Napi and the Dogs

Napi kii Jmitaiksi

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One day Napi got himself a big old buffalo and brought him to his lodge, he was cooking and singing hay yay ya, having himself a good indigenous afternoon. The smoke started to waft out the top of his tipi and the dog smelled it.

The dog, *imitáá*, came over and was outside the tipi and started howling whooooo Napi help me, I need to eat. Napi said *saa!* no! wait outside, you stink! Napi continued to sing Aay yay ya, Aay yay ya and doing more things for a good indigenous afternoon. Then more dogs, *imi taiksi*, showed up and said whoooo Napi, *isspomokit*, help me! help us we need to eat *oyit!* Napi said stay outside, you stink, stay outside.

Soon all of the dogs showed up outside Napi's tipi. They all started howling and said whooo Napi, *isspomokiinaan*; help us! No, *Saa!* you stink, stay outside. All the dogs were howling; you can imagine how annoying this was for Napi. So, Napi finally said Come in, *píít*, *kako'* go ahead, alright! I'll let you come into my tipi, but you stink, you need to take your bums off and leave them outside.

The dogs thought well, that's a little weird, but they're hungry. So, they took their bums off and went inside. Napi started cooking for them. He didn't realize how many dogs there were; he was adding more and more logs to the fire until the whole tipi started on fire. All of the dogs started running back and forth barking and Napi started yelling "run for your lives!" to all the dogs. In their haste to get away, the dogs would grab the first bum they could find, slap them on and took off into the prairies. To this day, we can still see the dogs looking for their bums.

