

¡Corre, pequeño Chaski!

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Sprouts

Overview

Glossary

Follow-up questions

Pequeño Chaski wakes up before Tayta Inti (the sun) rises, filled with excitement for his very first day as a royal messenger of the Inca Empire. His important task is to deliver a quipu—a special message made of knotted cords—to the Inca himself.

As he journeys along the ancient Inca Trail, Pequeño Chaski encounters several animals who need help. Though each stop slows him down, his kind heart compels him to lend a hand.

As the sun begins to set one question remains: will Pequeño Chaski reach his destination in time and deliver the quipu safely?

- 1) el chaski (tcha-skee) : a messenger during the time of the Incas
- 2) el nudo (NOO-do): the knot
- 3) el estómago ((es-TO-ma-go): the stomach
- 4) el khipu ((KEE-poo): a system of counting made of rope and knotted cords
- 5) el sabio (SA-bee-o): the wiseman
- 6) el inka (EEN-ka): the highest ruler of the Inca Empire
- 7) ocultarse (o-cool-TAR-se): to hide oneself
- 8) llevarse para la merienda (yeh-VAR-se pa-ra la meh-ree-EN-da): to take (something) for snack time
- 9) la rodilla (ro-DEE-ya): the knee
- 10) adolorida (a-do-lo-REE-da): sore / in pain
- 11) deslizar (des-lee-SAR): to slide
- 12) el oeste (el o-ES-te): the west
- 13) el aullido (a-oo-YEE-do): the howl
- 14) el allqu (AL-koo): a dog with no hair native to Peru
- 15) el cóndor (CON-dor): Large bird of prey from the Andes.
- 16) asustado (a-sus-TA-do): scared
- 17) el ave (EL A-be): the bird
- 18) la vicuña (vee-COO-nya): a camelid from the Andes
- 19) el umbral (oom-BRAL): the doorstep
- 20) la mejilla (meh-HEE-yah): the cheek
- 21) aliviado (ah-lee-vee-AH-doh): relieved
- 22) la prueba (PRAW-beh): the test, the proof
- 23) bandadoso (bahn-dah-DOH-soh): kind-hearted / good-natured

1

ENG: What is the role of the chaski in the Inca culture?
ESP: ¿Cuál es el papel del chaski en la cultura inca?

2

ENG: Did little chaski succeed in delivering the khipu? Describe what happened
ESP: ¿Logró el pequeño Chaski entregar el khipu? Describe lo que sucedió.

3

ENG: What made the Inca decide to name little Chaski “Big Hearted Chaski?”
ESP: ¿Qué hizo que el Inka decidiera llamar al pequeño Chaski “Gran Corazón Chaski”?

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