

# SnapRead!

Fort Washakie School is in Warm Valley, Wyoming. Warm Valley is in the Wind River Indian Reservation. 500 children go to the school. One mountain lion was there, too. She was curious.

The teacher said, "Respect all things. Respect yourself. You are Shoshone." She loved her class. She taught them to be kind and cheerful. She taught them to work hard. When it was recess time, Billi and her friends put on their jackets. They went outside.

A mama lion hid in the tree. She watched the children. She had watched them for many years.

"Did you see the big kitty?" Billi asked.

"No. Where?" Blaze asked. "Show me."

They waited for lunch. The friends and the cat watched each other.

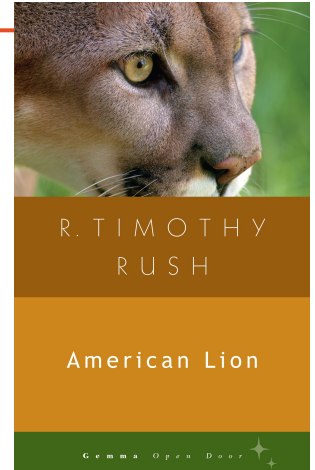
"Grandmother said not to tell others. She said lions watch over us."

The teacher saw the cat. She moved the children away. She went to the office.

Men and women came. They had guns. They talked and talked. The children said, "Don't shoot grandma lion! She is old."

The teacher took the children inside. They heard the shots. The lion did not fall.

The Tribal Policeman climbed the tree. He got the mama lion. She had been dead a long time. She was only watching the children one more time.



Adapted from  
*American Lion*  
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