



Story Robes

Niitsitapi men sometimes recorded important personal events on bison or elk hides (these are often called “story robes”) and tipi covers. These pictographs are public records of personal achievement. In Niitsitapi society, a man’s status and role came from his ability to provide food for his family, and from his willingness to risk death in the protection of his people. It was not appropriate to embellish one’s achievements. It was also important that the Creator be acknowledged as the ultimate source of all good fortune in one’s life.



Many Blackfoot tipis were painted with special designs that came to people in dreams. These designs helped the family have a good life. Glenbow Archives NA-919-37