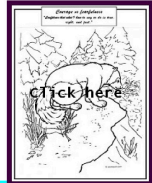


## Just for Kids!



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### Nature Story The Wolverine



A mother wolverine and her three young cubs were out hunting for food when they came across a fallen elk. They each took the opportunity to eat all they could. While the cubs continued to eat, the mother carefully licked her young clean. Then there was a rustling coming from the other side of the boulder the elk was behind. Becoming alert, the mother sensed a large animal was approaching. This small, 40 pound wolverine, not much bigger than a fox, made her way to the side of the boulder just in time to see a 700 pound grizzly bear intent on finishing off the remaining elk. The mother knew the grizzly would not be content to eat only the elk, but would also make a meal of her cubs.

Though badly outnumbered, she chose to defend her cubs. As their mother, it was the only right thing to do. Did you spot the "I Will"? The wolverine would defend her cubs because it was right. Even if it meant she might be harmed, she would protect her cubs at all cost. If something is right, we can boldly do it with all our energy, giving it all we've got, just like a wolverine.

The grizzly charged at the bunch of wolverines while letting out a loud roar. The mother did not hesitate when she leaped at the grizzly, using its shoulder. She saw her death in death as much pain as she could to discourage the bear from continuing. She was letting the bear know exactly how she felt about her taking their meal and threatening her cubs.

Did you spot the "I Will"? Wolverines make no mistake about their intentions. In this way, the wolverine reveals truth to and communicates exactly how it feels to other animals. To be bold, we must also speak the truth, not hiding information or changing the facts to avoid the consequences of a mistake or wrong choice.

The grizzly bear and wolverine fought each other until the smaller wolverine was overcome by her wounds. As the grizzly made his way over to the elk and the cubs, the weary mother made one last lunge at the bear, tearing into the same shoulder she had wounded earlier. She dug in with her teeth, screaming with her claws. The grizzly bear slipped on the next step and found it difficult to move its hurt leg. Searing pain shot through it and the grizzly was unable to continue moving forward with that leg. The wolverine let go and watched the grizzly turn and go the other way. Justice had been served.

Did you spot the "I Will"? The wolverine was determined to see that justice was carried out. Justice is taking the proper action that fits. Justice is a commitment to uphold what is right. We must be willing to speak the truth even if means we will be standing alone. By helping someone that is being treated unjustly we can keep a clear conscience. Do you want to have courage? Will you stand for what is right even when it is not easy? It won't always be popular, and you may be the only one, but if it is true, right, and just, you can have the courage of a wolverine.

adaptation by Kelly Sorge

Concept by **Character First**