

**WHEN THE WORLD
WAS YOUNG**

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When the World Was Young by Elizabeth V. Brown

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ELIZABETH V. BROWN

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WAS YOUNG**

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BY

ELIZABETH V. BBROWN

SUPERVISOR OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS, WASHINGTON, D.C.



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PREFACE

"PLAYING INDIAN" is perhaps the modern child's closest point of contact with primitive life. The warpath, the hunt, the chase, revive the aboriginal instincts; but the patient steps by which men have climbed from savagery to civilization, through the exercise of invention and industry, are often overlooked.

A vivid picture of primitive man shows him a creature with "no hair on his body to keep him warm, his jaws the feeblest in the world, his arm not equal to that of the gorilla. He could not fly like the eagle nor see into the night like the owl. Even the hare was fleetier than he. He had no clothing, no shelter, no tools, no industries or experiences, no society or language or arts of pleasure.

"The one endowment with promise or potency of all future achievements was the creative spark called invention. The superabundant brain held in trust the possibilities of the future."¹

It is the aim of these stories to stimulate an interest in culture-history, and from a knowledge of past conditions to build up an idea of the meaning of the arts of life in our own time.

¹ From "Origins of Invention," Mason.

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Elizabeth H. Brown

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tive life, telling, in a simple way, man's progress from
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