Storytelling, or oral history, is one way of passing information from one generation to another. It is a **primary source**, which is a first-hand account of an event, person, or place. More than 100 years ago historian George Dorsey collected a story about how the Wichita built grass houses from a Wichita chief named Jim. Dorsey wrote what Chief Jim told him in the book, *The Mythology of the Wichita*. This illustrated story is a short version of what Chief Jim said.

**How a Grass House Was Built**

1. The Wichita lived in villages in beehive-shaped houses.
2. The whole family shared in collecting logs, poles, and grasses.
3. The women and children built the house.
4. In building a grass house, big cedar posts are put upright into the ground.
5. Cedar poles are used to connect the upright posts.
6. Long, thin cedar poles are leaned against the frame to form a circle.