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HERMAN THE CAVEMAN

The cavemen were trying to catch fish

with their hands.

Herman the caveman

sat on a rock on the river bank

and watched them.

He did not want to get wet.

He did not want to work so hard.

And he did not want to look so silly.

But Herman was hungry.

“How can I catch fish

without getting wet

or working so hard

or looking so silly?” Herman said.

The cavemen told him,

“You’re just lazy.

We won't share our fish
with you."

Herman said, "I don't care.
I'll show you."

But Herman had no idea
how he would show them.

He thought
and he thought
and he thought.

"I know!" he said.

He stood up
and found a long branch.

He cut a long length of vine
and tied it to the end of the branch.

He found a worm and tied it
to the free end of the vine.

Then he sat down again on the rock
on the riverbank.

He held onto the branch
and dropped the worm
into the water.

The other cavemen
looked at Herman
and laughed.

“What do you think you’re doing?” they said.

“I’m fishing,” said Herman.

The other cavemen laughed.

“You cannot fish without getting wet,” they said.

“You have to work hard to catch fish,” they said.

“You look silly,” they said.

“That’s what you think,” Herman said.

Herman waited.

And waited.

And waited.

Herman was patient.

The other cavemen
stopped fishing.

They watched Herman
and laughed.

Herman did not care.

He waited some more.

Suddenly,

he felt a tug at the end

of the vine.

He lifted the vine

out of the water.

At the end of the vine

was a wiggling fish.

“I did it!” Herman said.

“I caught a fish!

I did not get wet.

I did not work hard.

And I did not look silly like you,”

he told the other cavemen.

The cavemen were surprised.

“Herman is right,” they said.

They all left the water and

found long sticks

and lengths of vine

and worms.

They sat on the river bank
and fished next to Herman.
Everybody was happy.

THE END