Native American Resources
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Curriculum Materials Center
David & Lorraine Cheng Library, William Paterson University

This is a selected list of resources available at the Cheng Library that can be helpful when teaching about Native American culture in Grades PreK-12.

Teacher Resources


Call number: Curr.Mats. E76.6.H37 1997

Hirschfelder, A. B., & Beamer, Y. (2000). *Native Americans today: Resources and activities for educators, grades 4-8.* Englewood, CO: Teacher Ideas Press. (Grades 4-8).
Call number: Curr.Mats. E76.6.H5 2000


Woodland Indians Call number: Curr.Mats. E76.6.N48 1997 vol. 4

Call number: [Holocaust] E77.R55 1995
Call number: Curr.Mats.Ref. E77.4 .B76 2005


**Juvenile Literature**

**Picture Books:**

A child living in the Arctic learns that a mother’s love is unconditional.
Call number: [Big Book] P J Joo

A young Lenni Lenape Indian child describes her family’s life through the seasons.
Call number: P J Mes

Today is a special day for Maggie, for she has been given two pairs of shoes, moccasins and patent leather. Now she must “remember when and how to wear each pair.”
Call number: P J San

A small Inuit boy discovers that mother’s lap is a very special place with room for everyone.
Call number: P J Sco

A recipe for bannock follows the story, so children and their parents or teachers can read a story and have a snack together.
Call number: P J Whe

A young boy tells in detail how his Kookum made his moccasins.
Call number: P J Whe
Fiction:

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

**Call number: J Ale**

After her mother leaves home suddenly, Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother’s route.

**Call number: J Cre**

A Native American boy with a special gift to “see” beyond his poor eyesight journeys with an old warrior to a land of mystery and beauty.

**Call number: J Dor**

Omayakayas, a Native American girl, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior.

**Call number: J Erd**

A girl, dressed like a reindeer, crashes Coyotes’s solstice party and brings them to a mall where Coyote has fun shopping until he has to pay for everything.

**Call number: J Kin**

Hiawatha is plotting revenge for the murder of his family, when he meets the Great Peacemaker who helps to bring nations together to share a life of peace, love, and unity.

**Call number: J Rob**

Together with Grampa, Ray Halfmoon, a Seminole-Cherokee boy, finds creative and amusing solutions to life’s challenges.

**Call number: J Smi**
Biography, Facts, & History:

A photo essay on the Pan-Indian celebration called a powwow. This particular powwow was held on the Crow Reservation in Montana.
Call number: j394.268 Anc

A documented account of the systematic destruction of Native Americans during the second half of the nineteenth century.
Call number: j970.00497 Bro

Photographs and text present the experiences and way of life of Native American children in the villages, cities, and bush areas of Alaska.
Call number: j979.8 Bro

During the winter of 1831, a boy was born into a family of Sioux. He was given the name that came from his actions and grew up to be known as Sitting Bull.
Call number: jB Sit

Hands on activities, games, and crafts to introduce children to the diversity of Native American cultures.
Call number: j970.004 Den

Learn about the creation story of the Cree nation, their traditional way of life, and Cree life today.
Call number: j971.200 Dwy
This book describes the events that took place during the three days that the Wampanag people and the colonists came together.

Call number: j394.264 Gra

April tells the story of her home and family, and the stories unique to the Pueblo nation.

Call number: [Big Book] j970.004 Hoy

(Miwok, Comanche, Navajo).
Surveys the history of the various tribes from these culture areas. Describes the spiritual, cultural, and social practices that distinguish each tribe.

Call number: j978.004 Ame

An eclectic collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that express the experience of being a native woman.

Call number: j971.004 Not

A photo essay describing a young Native Alaskan boy fishing for salmon on Kodiak Island as his ancestors have done for generations.

Call number: j639.275 McM

A grandmother relates family and cultural history to her granddaughter as they share their daily tasks on the Wind River Indian reservation in Wyoming.

Call number: j978.004 Mor

Told from the point of view of Red Cloud, this book tells how the Lakota were forced onto a reservation.

Call number: j978.004 Nel
A biography of Ira Hayes who fought in World War II as a Marine. He was one of the six soldiers to raise the US Flag at Iwo Jima.

**Call number: jB Hayes**

Compact and sobering overview of the progress of Native Americans throughout their history.

**Call number: j970.004 Ort**

When the Spaniards introduced horses to the Great Plains they became and remain a key part of the Plains Indians culture.

**Call number: j978.004 Pat**

Sequoyah was a Cherokee man who invented a system of writing for his people. A family learns the story of the Sequoyah tree’s namesake while walking in the forest.

**Call number: jB Seq**

Celebrates the Osage Indian tribal culture through the daily life of Christopher Cote.

**Call number: j978.004 Sim**

Provides an overview of New Jersey Native peoples including their history, cultures, government, religion, and life in New Jersey today.

**Call number: j974.9 Ste**

Photographs introduce readers to the Apache and their traditions including social structure, homes, food, art, clothing, and more.

**Call number: j979.004 Tie**
Literature (Poetry & Stories):

Willful Baby Rattlesnake throws tantrums to get his rattle before he’s ready, but he misuses it and learns a lesson.
**Call number: j398.245 Ata**

From creation stories to childhood memories, reflections on tribal rituals of the Navajo land and culture.
**Call number: j811.54 Beg**

Native American tales and myths focusing on the relationship between man and nature.
**Call number: j398.208 Bru**

Art and writing form some of the most groundbreaking Native artists working in North America today.
**Call number: j704.03 Dre**

Collection of over twenty trickster tales from various Native American traditions in graphic novel format.
**Call number: j398.2 Tri**

In this trickster tale, Iktomi attempts to defeat a boulder with the assistance of some bats, which explains why the Great Plains are covered with small stones.
**Call number: j398.2 Gob**

Five stories presenting Chief Lelooska, storyteller, about the Kwatiutl people of the Northwest Coast.
**Call number: j398.2 Lel**
A coming-of-age story about a young boy who has to both prove and accept his grandmother’s prediction of his heroic destiny.

**Call number:** j398.209 Sim

**Websites:**

**American Indians in Children's Literature**
Native American librarian, Debbie Reese, created this blog to provide a Native American perspective of children's and young adult literature that includes Native Americans. Included are book reviews, and analysis of stereotypes found in popular culture, school curriculum and society.

[https://americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com/](https://americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com/)

**National Education Association**
A list of books about Native Americans sorted by grade level including fiction, nonfiction, and poetry is available.

[http://www.nea.org/grants/29498.htm](http://www.nea.org/grants/29498.htm)

**Native Knowledge 360**
A project of the National Museum of the American Indian (part of the Smithsonian) this website provides resources that teach about Native American history and cultures from the Native American perspective. Lesson plans and units of study can be searched by subject, grade level, geographic region and/or tribal nation. It provides insight into that past as well as the life of Native peoples today.

[http://nmai.si.edu/nk360](http://nmai.si.edu/nk360)

**Oyate**
Oyate works to maintain honest portrayals of Native Americans. At this site you can find a list of books appropriate to teach about Thanksgiving, and *Criteria for Evaluating Books.*


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