The selections that follow include several books written from within the culture by Native American people. You will also find books written by non-Native American authors. These titles have been evaluated using several useful tools that are referenced at the end of this chapter.

Books and materials cover a wide geographic area, allowing readers to grasp the vast diversity of Native American cultures. Whenever available, books about contemporary Native American peoples are included for each geographic region, as well as a mix of historical fiction, nonfiction, and folklore. Also included are books that can be used to prepare programs and lessons.

Whenever possible, the author’s tribal affiliation and the book’s geographic region have been noted in parentheses at the end of the annotation.

**RECOMMENDED MATERIALS**


Eva lowers herself under the ice and searches for mussels by candlelight, forgetting her mother’s warning to return before the tide rushes into shore. (Arctic)


Baby Rattlesnake is too young to have a rattle, but he throws a tantrum until the people say, “Go ahead, give him a rattle. He’s too young and he’ll get into trouble. But let him learn a lesson.” And Baby Rattlesnake does learn a lesson. (Chickasaw; Southwest)


Filmmaker Michael Bad Hand Terry uses his skill in preparing remarkable tableau scenes depicting representations of Cheyenne family life, clothing, horses, tipis, and crafts of the late 1800s on the Great Plains in full color photographs. (Great Plains)


Hungry coyote Ma’ii decides it’s time to visit his hardworking cousin Horned Toad in order to get a good meal. Though Toad generously shares his corn, Ma’ii takes more and more, until clever Toad finds a way to teach him a lesson. (Navajo; Southwest)


This tale, shared by many native peoples of California, tells of an ancient time when the animals could talk. Coyote made wishes and plans and, with help from the animals, prepared for the future of the many different peoples who walk the earth. (California)
NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE


From the Animal Lore and Legend series, these traditional stories about the rabbit include trickster legends from various geographic regions and are combined with interesting facts about this animal. Other titles in the series include *Owl* by Native American author Vee Browne (Navaho), *Bear* by E. K. Caldwell (Cherokee), and *Buffalo* by Tiffany Midge (Hunkpapa Lakota). (Choctaw/Chickasaw)


A story, told through the eyes of Grandma Toopa, of a people’s ancient way of life that is forever changed in an instant when the Grand Coulee Dam floods their lands. (Metis, Colville Confederated Tribes; Subarctic)


*O Wakaga* translates to “I made it.” This large-format book emphasizes the Lakota people and includes information on life ways and language. Instructions for making a drum, mobile, and tipi are included along with recipes. (Choctaw; Great Plains)


Based on a historical incident and told in alternating points of view, this is a fast-paced story of a meeting between fourteen-year-old Samuel Russell, called coward for his peace-loving Quaker beliefs, and Stands Straight, a young Abenaki Indian who has been sent on a scouting mission by King George. (Abenaki; Northeast)


Stars, moon, earth, night, and tales of the Big Dipper are represented in these poems from various North American cultures in this companion to *Thirteen Moons on Turtle’s Back.* Luminous full-page acrylic paintings extend the concept that everything in nature holds a story. Covers several geographic regions. (Abenaki)


The purpose of this beautifully illustrated book is to help children recognize the diversity of Native Americans by presenting a cross section of Native Americans in relation to their environment: “Anishanabe artists making birch bark bowls, Penobscot mothers singing their little ones to sleep, Shinnecock dancers feet shaping a dream.” Covers several geographic regions. (Abenaki)


This picture book biography shows a day in the life of the author and highlights his belief in first listening, then observing, then remembering, and finally sharing. He also tells how he learned about his own Native American background. (Abenaki; Northeast)


With the help of the entire community, Beloved Woman devises a plan to get rid of the thief, frightening the spirit dog away. Source notes and a brief history of the forced removal of the Cherokee are appended. (Abenaki, Cherokee; Southeast)


The goal of these workbooks is to provide fifth- and sixth-grade students with a better understanding of the contributions of American Indian peoples in four areas: astronomy, communication systems, timekeeping devices, and toys and games. Workbooks in series cover several geographic areas.


Though he is forced to give up his language and tradition when he is taken to a boarding school, Young Bull holds fast to his memories when he snips through the thin blue lines of his ledger book to draw memories of warriors riding side by side. (Great Plains)

Each chapter begins with a story that evokes interest in the subject, which is then explored with many accompanying activities. Covers several geographic areas. (Abenaki)


This retelling of the legend of Ka-ha-si tells how he acquired strength and boldness and used these attributes to rescue his people in time of peril. Extensive endnotes include information and photographs of Inuit food, clothing, and shelter, both then and now. (Arctic)


The author deftly weaves three stories together in this narrative. The first is the story of a lonely old woman reflecting on the strength passed on to her by her grandfather, in part through the retelling of an ancient Chumash legend. She in turn passes on that strength by sharing the legend with a vulnerable young boy. (California)


Walnut journeys with elder Gray Fire and learns to "see" beyond his poor eyesight, turning his handicap into an advantage and earning the respect of his peers. This story is set in sixteenth-century America. (Modoc; Northeast)


Captured by a group of Delaware Indians, twelve-year-old Mary Campbell is forced to travel west with them to Ohio. As the seasons change, Mary finds herself understanding and adapting to life in this new culture. This book is based on a true story. (Northeast)


The text, which is in both Inuktutit and English, describes a now-vanished way of life for the Inuit. (Inuit; Arctic)


Omakayas, a seven-year old Ojibwa girl, survives a deadly smallpox epidemic and is rescued and raised by a loving family. Set in 1847, this book portrays the perils and joys of survival on an island in Lake Superior. (Ojibwa; Northeast)


It is bedtime and Kyle cannot find his friend, Chester Bear. Without him, Kyle will have to face the night alone. (Subarctic)


Basketweavers speak of the baskets and the plants they use, showing the challenges they face in carrying on the tradition. (California)


After tricking some prairie dogs into becoming his dinner, Iktomi is himself outwitted by a coyote. (Great Plains)


Written under the guidance of a Lakota advisor, this book simulates a boy’s journal. It tells about his life growing up on the Plains and his move to the Carlisle school in the late nineteenth century. (Great Plains)


It was from her mother that the author learned that thunder and lightning were two great birds who lived in the clouds warning the Choctaw people of a coming rainstorm. Brightly
colored torn-paper collages reflect the humor in this tale. (Choctaw; Southeast)


When the government removal of the Choctaw begins in October 1831, ten-year-old Minko Ushi and his father travel ahead to prepare a home. This story is based on the arduous journey of the author’s great-grandfather. Though only two episodes are true, she has filled in the details based on extensive research. (Choctaw; Southeast)


This photo essay tells its story through the eyes of Thunder Bear Yates, an eight-year-old boy whose grandfather, Herbert Yates, helped bring the buffalo (Ko) back to Nambe Pueblo. He tells about the importance of the buffalo to Pueblo culture, history, and spirituality. (Southwest)


Aknik, a young Inupiat boy, must prove to his tribe that he can hunt before he is accepted as a man. (Arctic)


David, aged thirteen, spends the summer in Metlakatla, Alaska, at his father’s boyhood home and celebrates a Potlatch to honor their heritage. This book includes a glossary and index. (Arctic)


A special group of Navajo children shares their art in this book, which introduces the reader to their history and vibrant culture. The book includes activities relating to family and feelings. (Southwest)


Based on the oral tradition of the Yahi, this story fragment is a translation based on the original phonetic transcriptions of Ishi. Lizard, who is good at making arrows, is interrupted by Long Tailed Lizard. Illustrated with torn paper collage. (Yahi; California)


Libbie, a young African-American slave, escapes from a plantation in 1834 with her father and sister and is taken south to Florida, where they are invited to join a Seminole Indian tribe. (Southeast)


A Dakota woman learns a hard lesson about greed and selfishness when she takes the winter supply of beans from the Bean Mouse and leaves nothing in return. (Great Plains)


A retelling of a traditional Navajo creation myth which explains how water came to earth. By the same author as Grandmother Spider Brings the Sun. (Navajo; Southwest)


The everyday life of ten-year-old Sonja and her eight-year-old sister Desiree at the San Ildefonso Pueblo is portrayed in this color photo essay. An excellent companion to the author’s Pueblo Boy, Pueblo People and Southwest Indian Cookbook. (Southwest)


This book is surveys the tribes of the California region, including the Hupa, Pomo, Chumash, Miwok, and Yorok. A discussion of the history, culture, and current situation is accompanied by more than eighty black-and-white and color photographs. (California)

This book describes a Narragansett Nickom-moh, or harvest celebration. The feasting, gaming, and dancing that accompany this harvest celebration are poetically described. A glossary is appended which lists all Narragansett words used in the text. (Northeast)


Charlotte moves to the western wilderness of the Snake River in the 1870s and is befriended by Lily, a young Nez Perce girl. When she learns that soldiers will force Lily’s people off the nearby land, Charlotte uses a doll to warn her friend of the impending danger. This original story is based on an actual historical event. (Great Basin, Plateaus)


Growing up in Repulse Bay, the author spent much time watching animals and the way they hunt. This counting book introduces not only the numbers in English and Inuktitut, but also these arctic animals. Vibrant watercolor artwork portrays the arctic landscape. (Arctic)


The story of a young girl’s mother, whose grandmother guides her through her grief as they witness the Northern Lights. (Arctic)


Tony is comforted by family members who help him understand that in the combination of many heritages, he becomes “more than whole.” A glossary of concepts, terms, and designs of the various cultures represented by the characters in this story is appended. Covers several geographic regions. (Mohawk, Apache, Hopi, Tewa)


Anna, a young Poarch Creek Indian, begins to learn the art of basket making, but Grandmother warns her that she will find herself tested as “she begins to learn this traditional art.” and indeed, she does. Information about the history of the Poarch Creek Indians in Alabama is appended. (Southeast)


Kevin Locke, a Hunkpapa Indian, prepares for and performs a traditional Lakota Hoop dance in this beautifully illustrated color photo essay. (Great Plains)


Five tales of the Kwakiutl are told by Chief Lelooska. Each tale is accompanied by extensive notes and elaborate illustrations. This book includes a CD-ROM recording of Chief Lelooska reading his stories, accompanied by music. (Northwest Coast)


A story drawn from Haida Indian literary tradition, in which a boy falls from his canoe into a world of eighteen-foot-tall human-like creatures. They welcome him and eventually return him to his village. American Book Award. Best Children’s Book of the Pacific Northwest. (Northwest Coast)


Using text and his own vibrant collage paintings, the author describes the experiences of Indians of North America in general as well as his experiences growing up as a Plains Cree Indian in Canada. (Cree; Subarctic)


Old Coyote manages to acquire fire from the wicked Yellow Jacket sisters with the help of many animal friends. A note about the importance of storytelling written by Julian Lang (Karuk) and an extensive bibliography of sources are appended. Meticulous illustrations capture the setting. (Pomo/Miwok; California)

The author consulted with members of the Nisqually tribe to bring us this traditional story of a greedy man who climbs the mountain and sacrifices all to acquire a valuable shell treasure. Instead, he discovers a valuable truth. (Northwest Coast)


“Artists have magic eyes to see hidden things,” and that's what these twelve camouflage-art paintings of the western wilderness invite the reader to do. Covers several geographic regions.


*Mamook* means “to do” in Chinook jargon. This large book contains directions for a longhouse, transformation masks, a mobile, and a salmon game. Contains both historical and contemporary scenes. (Cherokee; Northwest Coast)


Thomas Mayfield was eight years old when his mother died and left him in the care of the Choinumne Indians, who raised him. Much information about the San Joaquin Valley Indians is learned while reading this biography. (California)


Six stories featuring the trickster rabbit are written for beginner readers. Source notes and a brief essay are included which explain about the importance of trickster in Native American folklore. Other books in the Native American Trickster Tale series include *That Tricky Coyote* and *Big Trouble for Tricky Rabbit.* Covers several geographic regions.


Elena, a Yupuik girl, uses her “storyknife” to tell Lissie the story of the tundra mouse and the house mouse. Line drawings representing the lines drawn on the ground with a storyknife accompany this beautifully illustrated tale from southwestern Alaska. (Arctic)


Part of a series that teaches children about Northwest Coast Indians through various games and activities. Reviewed for cultural accuracy by tribal members. Other books in the series include *The Cedar Plank Mask* and *The Bentwood Box.* (Northwest Coast)


These Wampanoag tales are told by Manitonquat, an elder, spiritual leader, and storyteller of the tribe and include *pourquoi* tales, creation myths, and legends as well as tales that are humorous. The illustrations are realistic water-color. (Medicine Story; Northeast)


This collection of stories and memories provides an overview of the culture and history of California Indian Tribes, and is illustrated with dozens of historic and modern photographs. (California)


Photographer Ben Marra presents striking portraits of children, men, and women as they participate in this multigenerational celebration of Native song and dance.


Three traditional buffalo stories from the Seneca, Omaha, Ojibwa, Wichita, Apache, and Kiowa peoples, retold with interesting facts about the animal. (Hunkpapa Lakota; Great Plains)


Katie, whose Native name is Red Bird, joins her
family and Indians from many other tribes at the Nanticoke annual powwow in southern Delaware, where they celebrate their heritage with music, dancing, and special foods. (Northeast)


When Cree cousins Joe and Rena get ousted from Joe’s “no-girls-allowed club,” they get unasked-for assistance from the great Wisahkecahk. (Subarctic)


In a dream, Christopher finds out the importance of not taking without giving something in return. Black-and-white woodcuts are used to illustrate the story. (Metis; Subarctic)


Allashua’s parents warn her not to go fishing on the dangerous sea ice, but she breaks her promise and is pulled down under the ice by the Qallunguit. She escapes only with another promise to bring her brother and sister back. A promise is a promise, but clever mother has a plan. An interactive multimedia CD-ROM is available from Discis Knowledge Research. (Inuit; Arctic)


Three Ojibwa creation legends are included: “The Sun Snarer,” “Ojeeg’s Search for Summer,” and “Wassamowin and the Thunderbirds.” (Northeast)


This book contains a collection of seven Cree and Chippewa trickster tales collected by the author in northern Labrador, Manitoba, and the Alberta Coast. (Subarctic)


A Native American poet traces the progress of Native Americans from the time of creation to the present. Covers several geographic regions. (Acoma)


Little Wolf, a young child, and his family prepare for Itse Selu, the Green Corn Festival, a Thanksgiving celebration for the corn harvest and a celebration of the new year. Many details of traditional Cherokee life are incorporated into the story, along with words from the eastern dialect of the Cherokee. (Cherokee; Southeast)


A color photo essay that portrays twelve-year-old Steven and his grandfather, Fast Turtle, preparing to host an Appanaug—a clambake ceremony. (Northeast)


An anthology of words and photographs that takes us to the heart of Native American life and thought. Included are the historic texts of Chief Seattle, Chief Joseph, and Cochise, as well as many contemporary voices. Covers several geographic regions.


An English translation of Inuit poems, collected primarily by Danish ethnologist Knud Rasmussen. Each poem is accompanied by a full color oil painting. (Arctic)


Autumn Eyetoo, a young Ute girl, is excited as she prepares for her first Mama kwa kap, Bear Dance. But when the young boys will not dance with her, Autumn Eyetoo decides to ask one of the grandfathers to dance. Illustrated in batik. (Great Basin and Plateau)

Excellent color photographs illustrate eleven-year-old Glen as he takes part in the traditional gathering of wild rice on the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota. (Northeast)


A young girl waits patiently on the bank of a river for the salmon to return in this retelling of an old tale narrated by the late Miska Deaphon, an elder from the Alaska village of Nikolai. She wonders what life would be like as a salmon, and then finds out. Originally translated and published as part of a collection, this tale of the girl’s adventures under the water reminds us of the sacredness of the natural world. (Arctic)


Jaclyn’s grandmother teaches her not only the technique of weaving but also stories and songs that go along with it. Each step of the process is beautifully portrayed in this color photo essay. (Southwest)


Introduces the history, culture, and beliefs of the Lakota Indians through a description of the lives of several children living on the Rosebud Sioux reservation in South Dakota. (Great Plains)


When Hawk observes Crow’s abandoned eggs, she sits on them until they hatch and cares for the young crows. After they are grown, Crow decides she wants them back. To which mother do the birds belong? Eagle, king of the birds, must decide. Simple rhythmic language illustrated in vivid paper collage. (Southwest)


The Kato Indians of Northern California tell of the Great Traveler, who, accompanied by his dog, begins to fashion a new earth after it is swept away by water in this creation story. (California)


Long ago when Turtle and Possum were friends and all the animals spoke the same language, Turtle’s back was smooth, but his boastful ways soon led to trouble. (Cherokee; Southeast)


Maggie, an Ojibway girl, receives a shiny pair of leather shoes from her mother. Grandmother gives her a pair of beautiful beaded moccasins, blending the contemporary with the traditional in this simple story of a loving family. (Cree; Northeast)


This retelling is based on a traditional Southern Sierra Miwok tale. Two disobedient cubs wander away from their mother. All of the animals search for the missing bears, and Red-tailed Hawk finds them high atop a huge granite stone. Notes about the story and the Miwok people are appended with an extensive list of related readings. (California)


Benny Len and his brother are young Maidu Indian boys. They are sent to live at a government-run Indian boarding school in California in the 1930s but find a way to return home. This tale of courage is complemented by arresting illustrations. (California)


A young girl receives guidance from her grandfather who helps her find the courage to face her taunting classmates when he relates a Seneca tale. (Abenaki; Northeast)

Told from the point of view of a young girl who is not Navajo, this story relates the events that occur when she attends the wedding of her best friend’s cousin. The author presents Navajo wedding customs as told to her by the women of the Bitterwater Clan in Shinto, Arizona. Soft colored-pencil illustrations accompany the story. (Southwest)


Spider has earned a chance to be in the spelling bee, but he is too frightened to go on stage. His family encourages him to overcome his fear. This story takes place on a Shoshone reservation and portrays a loving Native American family blending elements of their cultural traditions into a contemporary lifestyle. (Great Basin and Plateau)


Describes the materials, construction, and uses of the mounds built by ancient Native American peoples, including the Adena, the Hopewells, and the Mississippians. Shaded pastel and black-and-white drawings illustrate this text and the others in Shemie’s Native Dwellings series. Covers several geographic regions.


Another book in the First Americans series, this title describes the tribal roots, ways of life, rituals, and history of several Indian tribes of the Plateau and Great Basin, including the Paiute, Shoshone, Ute, and Flathead. (Great Basin and Plateau)


This book begins with a creation story that sets the tone for an overview of the social life, customs, and history of Cheyenne people. Watercolor illustrations with maps portray homelands and customs of men, women, and children; also includes a section about the life of the Cheyenne people today. (Lakota; Great Plains)


The author’s family is bicultural, and the duality of her children’s heritage inspired this story in which a traditional Lakota trickster, Iktomi, meets a Norwegian mountain troll. The two become competitors, helpers, and friends as they struggle to hold on to their own native ways. (Lakota; Great Plains)


A full-page color illustration from various Native American artists accompanies each of the fourteen tales from several Native American peoples, including: Kiowa, Zuni, Cherokee, Hopi, Lakota, and Muskogee. Each features a spider character, representing different aspects of his personality: mentor, trickster, and ally. Covers several geographic regions.


This black-and-white photo essay shows Tookillkee and his son Jopee building an igloo, step by step, that they will use for shelter while on a hunting trip. (Arctic)


Based on her own experiences growing up in an Indian Residential school in the 1950s, Sterling has written a powerful first novel in diary format. Winner of the Sheila A. Egoff Book Prize, and shortlisted for the Governor General’s Literary Award. (Salish; Northwest Coast)


Loosely based on the tale “Old Man Coyote and Buffalo Power” in Alice Marriott’s _Plains Indian Mythology_, this Shoshone tale tells how Coyote convinces old Buffalo to share his youth and strength. (Great Plains)
NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE


Saygee waits patiently until her Kiowa great-grandfather is ready to tell her the true story of how he got his name. Doesn’t Fall Off His Horse, during his youth at the end of the nineteenth century. Portrays camp life in the Kiowa village. Includes a glossary. (Cherokee; Great Plains)


A young Plains Indian girl walks through the woods with a medicine woman. Each letter from A to Z is illustrated with a nature scene. Set in the late 1800s. (Cherokee; Great Plains)


Two children learn about the life that is all around them while exploring the woods with their Grandmother Ann, a Cherokee medicine woman. This book has a strong message about the interconnectedness of nature. (Cherokee; Southeast)


Known as the Thanksgiving Address, this message is taught by Mohawk parents to their children as a way to start the day, giving thanks to Mother Earth. It is based on the belief that the natural world is a rare and precious gift. (Akwe: swekwa Mohawk; Northeast)


Gia Rose and her family spend a day together digging, preparing, and forming clay. This book gives the reader a view of contemporary Pueblo people continuing the age-old tradition of pottery making. (Tewa; Southwest)


Mohawk artist Taylor illustrates stories that open readers’ eyes to the wonders around them. Seven legends describe the creation of human-kind from seven different tribes: Zuni, Mandan, Cree, Chuckchee, Osage, Mohawk, and Modoc. Very brief notes about each tribe are appended. Covers several geographic areas. (Mohawk)


Includes a telling of traditional stories, such as “The Pet Donkey,” “The Spirit Wife,” “The Rabbit People,” “Iya,” “Iktomi and Buzzard,” and others. (Lakota/Kiowa, Apache; Great Plains)


Presents the life of an Alaskan hunter, storyteller, craftsman, and traditional leader who grew up on King Island, Alaska, in the 1920s. (Arctic)


Filmed with permission in 1996 at the fiftieth anniversary Shinnecock Labor Day Pow Wow, this winner of the 1997 best feature documentary film award at the Long Island Film Festival chronicles the importance of the event for its Native American participants. A P.B.S. Heritage Film Presentation. Distributed by Ziggy Films. Contact: Ofer Cohen, 35 Roosevelt Ave., E. Northport, NY 11731. 631-754-8455. (Northeast)


This slim volume provides instructions that show how to adapt crafts from thirty-three Native American peoples. There is also a brief introduction and a map of the traditional territories of nine culture groups. Each project has a materials list and easy-to-follow, step-by-step directions. Projects include jewelry, clay posts, a pouch, moccasins, dolls, and musical instruments. Covers several geographic regions. (Northwest)

These twenty-five stories, poems, and songs are selected especially for young children. They are illustrated with bold, spirited artwork and organized by culture region. Each region has a brief introduction. Covers several geographic regions.


A series of eyewitness accounts of the 1876 Battle of Little Bighorn and the defeat of General Custer, as told by Native American participants in the war. Excerpts from memoirs are arranged to give a sense of the chaotic, violent nature of that day. (Great Plains)


Noshen, an Ojibwa boy, spends an entire day from dawn to dusk with his grandfather. Watercolor illustrations are interspersed with detailed representations of beadwork. (Anishinaabe; Southeast)


Grandpa Iron tells thirteen stories to Eagle Walking Turtle, which he recalls from his youth. One tale is told for each full moon of the year and conveys some of the traditions and beliefs of his Arapaho people. (Choctaw; Great Plains)


An *inuksuk* is a rock structure, a “thing that can act in the place of a human being.” It can serve many functions, including communication of knowledge for survival and expression of joy. This book through photographs and illustration describes the five essential types of *inuksuk* and includes directions for constructing an *inuksuk*. A glossary of Inuktitut words is appended. (Arctic)


This traditional Otoe legend tells how people once lived in harmony with the world and the animal kingdom but become separated when man became greedy. (Pawnee/Otoe; Great Plains)


This cumulative tale describes how a young boy’s grandmother, his kookum, makes his moccasins and clearly portrays a contemporary Native American child participating in traditional activities. (Cree; Subarctic)


This book follows an eleven-year-old Western Mono Indian as she and her relatives prepare materials needed for basketweaving, make the baskets, and attend the California Indian Basketweavers Association’s annual gathering. (Rumiwisen Ohlone; California)

**PROGRAM IDEAS**

**Activities**

The following activities are broken down by geographic region.

**NORTHEAST**

Storytelling is important to many Native tribes. Encourage children to listen to stories and help them to share the stories with others by creating a storytelling bag. Directions to make a story telling bag can be found in Carlson, Laurie. *More than Moccasins: A Kid’s Guide to Traditional North American Indian Life.* Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 1994.

Nine activities for kids, including directions for making animal finger puppets, word search, crossword puzzle, matching game, and maze can be found at 

www.nativetech.org/Nipmuc/kidscorner.html.

This site is posted by the Nipmuc Indian Association of Connecticut.
**SOUTHWEST**


**NORTHWEST**

Several activities and projects are described in the following two books:


**GREAT BASIN AND PLATEAU**

Stick games were popular among many Native American peoples. Instructions for stick games may be found in the following books:


**CALIFORNIA**

Help children appreciate the skills needed to create Native American baskets by reading Yamane, Linda. *Weaving a California Tradition* and viewing the movie *From the Roots* (see Recommended Materials). Give them an opportunity to create a basket using the instructions in Haslam, Andrew, and Alexandra Parsons. *Make It Work! Native American Indians*. Stamford, Conn.: Two-Can/Thomson Learning, 1995.

**GENERAL**

Create a spiderweb, using a hula hoop for a frame and yarn for the strands. Use the pattern found in Caduto, Michael, and Joseph Bruchac. *Keepers of the Animals: Native American Stories of Wildlife Activities for Children* (see Recommended Materials).

**WEBSITES**

If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything
www.glis.utexas.edu/~ifican

This organization’s mission statement is “to assist the libraries serving Native American children in increasing reading skills while preserving Native identity through a family literacy program.” Excellent links, including Bureau of Indian Affairs, Native American Authors, American Indian Library Association, and plenty of Native American websites.

Native American Books
http://indy4.fdl.cc.mn.us/~isk/books/bookmenu.html

This site features Native American books and includes indexes, reviews by author, title, tribe, and grade level.

Native American Sites
www.pitt.edu/%7Elmitten/indians.html

Includes links to many tribal home pages as well as native organizations.

Nativeculture.com
www.nativeculture.com

A comprehensive portal site for Native American resources on the Internet. Resources for educators and librarians on Native American and minority library literature organizations. Extensive links provide a wealth of information.

Nihewan Foundation—CradleBoard Teaching Project
www.cradleboard.org/main.html

This site, developed by songwriter/teacher Buffy Sainte-Marie (Cree), provides numerous links to tribal sites and Native American organi-
zations as well as information about Native American curriculum and resources.

North American Native Authors Catalog
http://nativeauthors.com

This project, directed by Jesse Bruchac, is an online bookstore featuring books only by Native American authors. It also acts as a distributor for materials published by small presses.

Oyote
www.oyote.org

Oyote is a Native organization working to see that Native lives and histories are portrayed honestly. The website contains evaluations of texts by Native American peoples, and it makes available resource material and fiction by and about Native American peoples.

Techniques for Evaluating American Indian Web Sites
www.u.arizona.edu/~ecubbins/webcrit.html

Techniques for evaluating American Indian websites are given at this site.

Virtual tour of the National Museum of the American Indian
www.conexus.si.edu/VRTour/

Virtual tour of the National Museum of the American Indian, created by students from the Four Directions schools in Santa Clara, New Mexico. Tour the permanent exhibitions in the George Gustan Heye facility in New York, complete with descriptions of the artifacts written by children. Links to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. A worthwhile site to explore with students.

RESOURCES

Publications


This update of the earlier 1982 edition adds several new articles dealing with children’s misconceptions of American Indians and the portrayal of Native American peoples in textbooks and children’s literature. Many titles have been added to the bibliographies of books that are not recommended as well as to those that are recommended.


This article points to the need for books that tell stories about contemporary Native American children and annotates twelve books currently available.


This current and useful document lists fiction, nonfiction, and folktales about contemporary Native American people. There are also listings of books about boarding school experiences. Call 800-583-4135 for a free copy.


A compilation of work by Native American parents, educators, poets, and writers containing essays, poetry, and critical reviews of more than 100 books by and about American Indian people. Though some entries have been dropped because they have become dated, the authors do not consider this a new edition.


This book includes a foreword by Joseph Bruchac and several essays that provide helpful insights when evaluating books about Native Americans. Critical evaluations of many current books are also included.

Publishers and Other Organizations

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P.O. Box 196
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NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE

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United Tribes Technical College
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