

Thanks so much for your interest in bringing Native American cultures to life in your classroom in an accurate and respectful way! Please feel free to share these files with your colleagues.

In addition to the Powerpoint presentation and resources listed in this file, I urge you to check out the tab on the MINAS website with Montessori Elementary units on Columbus and Thanksgiving. You'll find write-ups for lessons, resources and extensions to give your students a better understanding of these holidays and their real place in American history. You can also find the same units correlated to Common Core standards, if you prefer.

Please also feel free to peruse the tab with the archive of MINAS newsletters, where you'll get more ideas for bringing Native American studies into your classroom.

Of course, please feel free to contact me with any feedback or questions as you begin this fulfilling journey--your students are bound to benefit greatly from your efforts!

Migwettch (thank you in Potawatomi),  
Linda

### Some Must-Have Reference Books

◆ Bill Bigelow and Bob Peterson, Rethinking Columbus: The Next 500 Years ISBN 0-942961-20-X  
*An essential resource for teachers providing a balanced look at the myth of Columbus.*

Rethinking Schools  
1001 East Keefe Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
(414)964-9646  
[www.rethinkingschools.org](http://www.rethinkingschools.org)

◆ Karen D. Harvey and Lisa D. Harjo, Indian Country: A History of Native People in America  
ISBN 1-55591-428-4  
*Written for teachers, parents and students, this book retells Native American history through essays, stories and speeches. Lesson plans, activities and supplemental reading for grades 6-12 are included.*

◆ Jones, Guy W. and Sally Moomaw, Lessons From Turtle Island: Native Curriculum in Early Childhood Classrooms ISBN 1-929610-25-4  
*Written by educators, this wonderful book offers unique perspectives on including authentic learning experiences about Native Americans in early childhood classrooms.*

✦ Kathy Kerner and Carole Durham, They Taught You Wrong: Raising Cultural Consciousness of Stereotypes and Misconceptions about American Indians

*A wonderful compilation of the misconceptions adults and children face about Native Americans, as well as a list of stereotypical books to be avoided at home and in the classroom.*

Contact Carole Durham at  
1016 Woodhaven Drive  
Lynchburg, VA 24502  
(804)239-7496 or [ribonshirt@aol.com](mailto:ribonshirt@aol.com)

✦ James W. Loewen, Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong  
ISBN 0-684-81886-8

*This award-winning author surveyed 12 leading high school history texts and examines the myths and misinformation they present. Fascinating reading.*

✦ George Russell, American Indian Facts of Life ISBN 1-811933-05-9

*A fascinating and sobering demographic profile of today's Native tribes and reservations.*

Russell Publications  
American Indian Data Resources  
9027 North Cobre Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85028-5317  
(800)-835-7220

✦ Beverly Slapin and Doris Seale, ed. A Broken Flute: The Native Experience in Books for Children  
ISBN 13: 978-0-7591-0779-3

*A great collection of reviews of more than 100 children's books by and about Native peoples and a guide for evaluating children's books for anti-Native bias.*

Oyate  
2702 Mathews Street  
Berkeley, CA 94702  
(510)848-6700  
[oyate@oyate.org](mailto:oyate@oyate.org)

Some Great Sources for Books

(other than Amazon)

✦ Daybreak Star Press

*Offering accurate Northwest Coast and Plains materials for teachers.*

P.O. Box 99100  
Seattle, WA 98199  
(206)285-4425

✳ Greenfield Review Press: North American Native Authors Catalog *Over 1,000 titles written or co-authored by Native people.*

2 Middle Grove Road  
P.O. Box 308  
Greenfield Center, NY 12833  
(518)583-1440

✳ Knowledge Unlimited

*Nice collection of Native American posters and videos*

2348 Pinehurst Drive  
Middleton, WI 53562-2542  
1-800-356-2303  
[www.thekustore.com](http://www.thekustore.com)

✳ Native Voices

*Books on Native history, crafts, culture and contemporary issues, as well as Native music and video, some at a discount.*

P.O. Box 180  
Summertown, TN 38483  
1-800-695-2241  
[www.nativevoices.com](http://www.nativevoices.com)

✳ Oyate

*Oyate is an organization working to see that Native histories and lives are portrayed correctly. They offer a great catalog of books, posters and videos.*

2702 Mathews Street  
Berkeley, CA 94702  
(510)848-6700  
[www.oyate.org](http://www.oyate.org)

✳ Teaching for Change

*A good collection of resources for multicultural teaching at all grade levels.*

Network of Educators on the Americas (NECA)  
P.O. Box 73038  
Washington, D.C. 20056-3038  
(202)238-2379  
[www.teachingforchange.org](http://www.teachingforchange.org)

✳ UCLA American Indian Studies Center

*A small but intense assortment of books and videos.*

Publications Unit  
3220 Campbell Hall  
Box 951548 AA34

Los Angeles, CA 90095-1548

[www.books.aisc.ucla.edu](http://www.books.aisc.ucla.edu)

✳ Woodland Pattern

*This literary arts center offers books from independent presses often unavailable from other bookstores. A nice Native American selection, in addition to many other cross-cultural topics.*

720 East Locust Street

Milwaukee, WI 53212

(414)263-5001

[www.woodlandpattern.org](http://www.woodlandpattern.org)

✳ Written Heritage

*A nice selection of Native books, videos and music*

P.O. Box 1390

Folsom, LA 70437-1390

1-800-301-8009

[www.writtenheritage.com](http://www.writtenheritage.com)

Crafts, etc.

✳ Cherokee Publications

*Great selection of books, videos, maps and kits*

P.O. Box 430

Cherokee, NC. 28719

1-800-948-3161

[www.CherokeePublications.net](http://www.CherokeePublications.net)

✳ Crazy Crow Trading Post

*Huge selection of beads, craft materials and kits*

P.O. Box 847

Pottsboro, TX 75076-0847

1-800-786-6210

[www.crazycrow.com](http://www.crazycrow.com)

✳ Noc Bay Trading Company

*Great selection of beads, craft materials and audiotapes*

P.O. Box 295

1133 Washington Ave.

Escanaba, MI 49829

1-800-652-7192

[www.nocbay.com](http://www.nocbay.com)

✧ Sioux Trading Post

*Beads, books, botanicals, craft materials and finished arts*

6<sup>th</sup> and Main Streets

Rapid City, SD

1-800-541-2388

[www.siouxtrading.com](http://www.siouxtrading.com)

✧ Wandering Bull, Inc.

*Craft supplies, gifts and botanicals*

P.O. Box 496

Carver, MA 02330

1-800-430-2855

[www.wanderingbull.com](http://www.wanderingbull.com)

Some Favorite Native Web Sites
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[www.manataka.org](http://www.manataka.org) is a Native organization with wonderful, downloadable stories, recipes, creation stories, histories, tribal links and much more.

<http://nativeauthors.com>

Books of Native authors online

[www.nativeculture.com/lisamitten/general.html](http://www.nativeculture.com/lisamitten/general.html)

Links to general Native-oriented sites

[www.nativeculture.com/lisamitten/nations/html](http://www.nativeculture.com/lisamitten/nations/html)

Listings and links to Native nations throughout the country

[www.nativeculturelinks.com/ailabib.htm](http://www.nativeculturelinks.com/ailabib.htm) must reading for any school librarian, this site is a selected bibliography of books compiled by the American Indian Library Association. It reviews books about Native people and presents a list of books to avoid, and why.

[www.nativetech.org/bookpages/](http://www.nativetech.org/bookpages/) gives a list of books on Native topics, many of which can be ordered directly from Barnes and Noble.

[www.nativeweb.org](http://www.nativeweb.org) is a treasure trove of information—how-to's of traditional crafts, recipes, stories, technology and art. Make sure to bookmark this one!

[www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/resource\\_library/american\\_indian\\_resources.html](http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/resource_library/american_indian_resources.html) this is another treasure trove of virtual exhibits, encyclopedia resources, lesson plans and educational resources.

### Some Midwest-Area Organizations

✧ Cahokia Mounds Museum Society

*Dedicated to preserving and promoting the not-to-be-missed Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site.*

P.O. Box 382  
Collinsville, IL 62234  
(618)344-7316

✧ Center for American Archeology

*Discovering and disseminating the unwritten story of earlier Americans' lifeways.*

P.O. Box 366  
Kampsville, IL 62053  
(618)653-4316  
[www.caa-archeology.org](http://www.caa-archeology.org)

✧ Midwest Institute for Native American Studies

*Creating Montessori elementary classroom materials about Great Lakes peoples*

942 Maple  
Evanston, IL 60202  
(847)328-5968  
[www.MINASIllinois.org](http://www.MINASIllinois.org)

✧ Midwest SOARRING Foundation

*(Save Our Ancestors Remains and Resources Indigenous Network Group)*

3013 South Wolf Road #192  
Westchester, IL 60154  
(773)585-1744  
[www.midwestsoaring.org](http://www.midwestsoaring.org)

### Recommended Area Museums and Libraries

✧ The Field Museum of Chicago

*Their Weber Resource Center offers a research library and teacher loan boxes.*

1201 South Lake Shore Drive  
Chicago, IL  
(312)922-9410  
[www.FieldMuseum.org](http://www.FieldMuseum.org)

✧ Chicago History Museum

*Good info on Fort Dearborn and settlement of Chicago. Great research library.*

Clark Street at North Avenue

Chicago, IL 60614

(312)642-4600

[www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org)

✧ The Indiana Historical Society

*Their "Frontier Indiana" CD-ROM is excellent.*

450 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

(800)447-1830

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

✧ Lake County Museum

*Research services and exhibits.*

27277 Forest Preserve Road

Wauconda, IL 60084

(847)526-7878

[www.lcfdp.org/discovery\\_museum](http://www.lcfdp.org/discovery_museum)

✧ Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

*Great place for a field trip! Teacher loan boxes and research library.*

3001 Central Street

Evanston, IL 60201

(847)475-1030

[www.mitchellmuseum.org](http://www.mitchellmuseum.org)

✧ The Newberry Library

*Non-circulating collections of rare books, maps and manuscripts.*

60 West Walton

Chicago, IL 60610-3305

(312)255-3700

[www.newberry.org](http://www.newberry.org)

✧ The Public Museum of Grand Rapids

*Hosts a not-to-be-missed permanent exhibit on the Anishinabe people*

272 Pearl NW

Grand Rapids, MI 49504

(616)456-3977

[www.grmuseum.org](http://www.grmuseum.org)

✘ Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society

*Historical research and exhibits*

6424 North Western Avenue

Chicago, IL 60645-5422

(773)764-4078

[www.rpwrhs.org](http://www.rpwrhs.org)

✘ The Schingoethe Center for Native American Cultures

*Exhibits focus on Woodland Natives. CLOSED until 2014; website still available.*

Aurora University Campus

Aurora, IL

(630)844-5512

[www.aurora.edu/museum](http://www.aurora.edu/museum)

✘ The Tippecanoe County Historical Association

*They operate four fascinating sites and also sponsor the must-see Feast of the Hunters Moon in October.*

1001 South Street

Lafayette, IN 47901-1414

(765)476-8411

[www.tcha.mus.in.us](http://www.tcha.mus.in.us)

## SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR TOUCH BOXES

**Make outside label for box in color of map's cultural area. Back the information cards and labels for each object with same color.**

### **Northeast Woodlands (green)**

Pieces of birchbark

Birchbark canoe

3 sisters: squash, corn and bean replicas

Replica of strawberries

Dream catcher

Book of photos

CD of music

Cattail leaves (used for mats)

Cattail fluff (used for stuffing, diapers)—make sure it's in sealable container!

Piece of buckskin (for clothing)

Piece of deer hide with hair

Piece of bear hide (for robes)

Tobacco (sacred plant used in ceremonies)

Porcupine quills (used in decorating)

Plastic models of deer, bear, wolf, trout, etc. --important woodland animals

White cowrie shells—used as money

### **Plains (orange)**

Piece of buffalo hide (robes)

Piece of buckskin (clothing)

Onion bulb replica (representing camas bulb dug for food)

Corn replica

Sunflower replica

Small cradleboard

Buffalo horn beads

Plastic models of buffalo, deer, pinto pony

Tiny drum

Toy buckskin horse

CD of music

Book of photos

**Northwest Coast (purple)**

Small wooden mask replica

Piece of bear hide(for robes)

Piece of buckskin (for clothes)

Piece of fishing net

Replica of grapes

Cedar leaves

Balls of cedar wood

Plastic models—bear, salmon, deer

Totem pole book

CD of music

CD of teaching stories—“The Third Ear”, by Johnny Moses

Book of photos

Northwest Coast art magnets

**California (red)**

Rabbit fur

Piece of buckskin (clothing)

Piece of deer hide

Tule (reed) doll

Shell necklace

Acorns

Stalks of reeds

Reed purse

Postcards of baskets

Plastic models—jackrabbit, deer, antelope

Abalone shell (used for decoration)

Conch shell pendant

Fishing net

CD of music

Book of photos

**Southeast (pink)**

Snapping turtle foot

Alligator head

Postcards—Cherokee alphabet, Cherokee seal, Cherokee clans

Piece of buckskin

Small Seminole doll

Small painted gourd

Plastic models—deer, fox

Replicas of corn, beans, squash, strawberries, fern

CD of music

Book of photos

**The Great Basin (brown)**

Pinon cone (pine nuts)

Pine nuts in jar

Coiled yucca fiber

Rabbit fur

Sage (sacred plant)

Plastic models—fox, jackrabbit

Toy buckskin bear

Shoshone rattle

CD of music

Book of photos

**Southwest (yellow)**

Male and female Navajo dolls in traditional dress

Rabbit fur

Replicas of corn, beans, squash, pepper and sunflower

Saguaro cactus stem

Small Burden basket

Small Navajo rug

Small southwestern clay pot

Small sandpainting

Piece of real cotton

Piece of turquoise

CD of music

Book of photos

**Plateau (grey)**

Piece of buffalo skin

Onion bulb (representing camas bulb)

Piece of bear hide

Piece of deer hide

Elk teeth

Buffalo teeth

Gold Sacagawea dollar

Buckskin bear toy

Shoshoni rattle

Plastic models—elk, wolf, deer, buffalo, trout, bear, Appaloosa horse

CD of music

Book of photos

**Resources**

Museum stores (check out the Mitchell Museum in Evanston, the Field Museum in Chicago, the Schingoethe Museum at Aurora University in Aurora)

Online Native craft stores for smaller replicas—check out the Christmas decoration section!

Online animal parts stores (do a Google search for hides, teeth and bones!)

Michael's craft stores—usually have fruits and veggie replicas, and many have animal models

Canyon Records has great compilations of traditional music you can use for your CDs. Choose 6 songs or so that represent different dances and copy them onto your own CD.

I use shoebox-sized Rubbermaid containers—make sure the tops are easily removable—buy 8 so they all match. I also found 8 similarly-colored 3 x 5 photo albums to include and I made my own template for CD labels.

*Please feel free to contact me if you're unsure what to include, what to write for your information cards or have any questions!*

# Teaching Respect for Native Peoples

## DO

- ➊ Present Native peoples as appropriate role models with whom a Native child can identify.
- ➋ Look for books and materials written and illustrated by Native people.
- ➌ Read and discuss good poetry, suitable for young people, by contemporary Native writers.
- ➍ Use primary source material—speeches, songs, poems, writings— that show the linguistic skill of peoples who came from an oral tradition.
- ➎ Avoid arts and crafts and activities that trivialize Native dress, dance or ceremony.
- ➏ Present Native peoples as separate from each other, with unique cultures, languages, spiritual beliefs and dress.
- ➐ Talk about the lives of Native peoples in the present.
- ➑ Make sure you know the history of Native peoples, past and present, before you attempt to teach it.
- ➒ Teach Native history as a regular part of American history.
- ➓ Use materials that put history in perspective.
- ➔ Discuss the relationship between Native peoples and the colonists and what went wrong with it.

## DON'T

- ➊ Single out Native children, ask them to describe their families' traditions, or their people's cultures.
- ➋ Do or say anything that would embarrass a Native child.
- ➌ Assume that you have no Native children in your class.
- ➍ Use ABC books that have "I is for Indian" or "E is for Eskimo."
- ➎ Use counting books that count "Indians."
- ➏ Use story books that show non-Native children "playing Indian."
- ➐ Use picture books by non-Native authors that show animals dressed as "Indians."
- ➑ Use story books with characters like "Indian Two Feet" or "Little Chief."
- ➒ Use books in which "Indian" characters speak in either "early jawbreaker" or in the oratorical style of the "noble savage."
- ➓ Make "Indian crafts" unless you know authentic methods and have authentic materials.
- ➔ Have children dress as "Indians," with paper-bag "costumes" or paper-feather "headdresses."
- ➕ Sing "Ten Little Indians."
- ➖ Refer to Native spirituality as "superstition."
- ➗ Use books that show Native peoples as savages, primitive craftspeople, or simple tribal people, now extinct.
- ➘ Make charts about "gifts the Indians gave us."
- ➙ Teach "Indians" only at Thanksgiving.
- ➚ Use materials that manipulate words like "victory," "conquest" or "massacre" to distort history.

## DO

- ➊ Use materials that present Native heroes who fought to defend their own people.
- ➋ Use materials that show respect for, and understanding of, the sophistication and complexities of Native societies.
- ➌ Use materials that show the continuity of Native societies, with traditional values and spiritual beliefs connected to the present.
- ➍ Use materials that show Native women, elders and children as integral and important to Native societies.
- ➎ Portray Native cultures as coexisting with nature in a delicate balance.
- ➏ Use respectful language in teaching about Native peoples.
- ➐ Invite Native community members to the classroom. Offer them an honorarium. Treat them as teachers, not as entertainers.

## DON'T

- ➑ Speak as though "the Indians" were here only for the benefit of the colonists.
- ➒ Use materials that present as heroes only those Native people who aided Europeans.
- ➓ Use materials that stress the superiority of European ways, and the inevitability of European conquest.
- ➔ Make up Indian "legends" or "ceremonies."
- ➕ Use books that portray Native women and elders as subservient to warriors.
- ➖ Portray Native peoples as "the first ecologists."
- ➗ Let children do "war-whoops."
- ➘ Encourage children to do Indian "dances."
- ➙ Use insulting terms such as "brave," "squaw," "papoose," "Indian givers," "wild Indian," "blanket Indians" or "wagon burners."
- ➚ Assume that every Native person knows everything there is to know about every Native nation.