# Native Americans

**Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library**  
**A Selective Annotated Bibliography**

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Lexile Score</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BIG BOOKS</strong></td>
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When cornmeal is stolen from an elderly couple, the others in a Cherokee village find a way to drive off the thief, creating the Milky Way in the process.


Katie, also known as Red Bird, joins her family and other Indians at the annual powwow in southern Delaware, where they celebrate their Nanticoke heritage with music, dancing, and special foods.

| **EASY** | | |

Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. Just because people call his dad Big Thunder doesn't mean he wants to be Little Thunder. He wants a name that celebrates something cool he's done, like Touch the Clouds, Not Afraid of Ten Thousand Teeth, or Full of...
Wonder. But just when Thunder Boy Jr. thinks all hope is lost, he and his dad pick the perfect name... a name that is sure to light up the sky.

E B83F

After the death of her Indian great-grandmother, Jamie remembers the many special things the old woman shared with her about the natural world.

E C1533S

When Shin-chi and his sister go off to his first year of Residential School in a cattle truck, she warns him of all the things he must not do. The days are long, he is very lonely and always hungry, but he finds solace down at the river with a gift from his father, a tiny cedar canoe.

E D3589D

Pictures and words pay homage to the Oneida Indians' view of the cycle of spring.

E H225G

Because her good luck cat Woogie has already used up eight of his nine lives in narrow escapes from disaster, a Native American girl worries when he disappears.

E M2259B

In the time when all people live in the sky and all animals in the water, Sky Girl falls through a hole, is rescued by swans and taken to wise Big Turtle who, with the help of noble Toad, called Mashutaha, creates the land on which we live. Includes notes about the Huron people from whom the tale comes.

E OH2H

A Cherokee couple spends their days fishing and making cornmeal. When a giant dog steals their cornmeal, the neighbors all gather to help. Find out how this Cherokee legend explains the creation of the Milky Way.

A small Eskimo boy discovers that Mother’s lap is a very special place with room for everyone.


In 1900 during the Passamaquoddy winter migration in Maine, Baby Zoo Sap falls off the family bobsled and the forest animals hearing his cries, gather to protect him until his father returns to find him.


Jenna, a member of the Muscogee, or Creek, Nation, borrows jingles from the dresses of several friends and relatives so that she can perform the jingle dance at the powwow. Includes a note about the jingle dance tradition and its regalia.

Wheeler, Bernelda. **Where Did You Get Your Moccasins?** Winnipeg: Peguis, 1995. (Other title by author: **I Can’t Have Bannock by the Beaver has a Dam**)

Children in an urban school are curious about a classmate’s moccasins.

**FICTION**


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

Bruchac, Joseph. **Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two.** New York: Scholastic, 2004. (Other titles by author: **Hidden Roots, Eagle Song, Children of the Longhouse, Skeleton Man, and Bowman’s Store**)

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in
their native tongue.


At the end of a winter-long journey into manhood, Little Hawk returns to find his village decimated by a white man's plague and soon, despite a fresh start, Little Hawk dies violently but his spirit remains trapped, seeing how his world changes.


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.


Alaskans Luke, Chickie, Sonny, Donna, and Amiq relate their experiences in the early 1960s when they are forced to attend a Catholic boarding school where, despite different tribal affiliations, they come to find a sort of family and home.


In 1866, Omakayas's son Chickadee is kidnapped by two ne'er-do-well brothers from his own tribe and must make a daring escape, forge unlikely friendships, and set out on an exciting and dangerous journey to get back home.


Twelve-year-olds Anikwa, of the Miami village of Kekionga, and James, of the trading post outside Fort Wayne, find their friendship threatened by the rising fear and tension brought by the War of 1812.


Seventh-grader Lewis "Shoe" Blake from the Tuscarora Reservation has a new friend, George Haddonfield from the local Air Force base, but in 1975 upstate New York there is a lot of tension and hatred between Native Americans and Whites--and Lewis is not sure that he can rely on friendship.

In the early 1900s as change comes to the village on Puget Sound where she lives, ten-year-old Ida Bowen worries about what is ahead for herself, her parents, beloved Little Grandma, and other members of the Suquamish people.


Shelby Cooper, nearly eighteen, has been overprotected by her single mother all her life but after a car accident, Shelby's life is transformed not only by the discovery of secrets about herself, but also by trips into “The Dreaming,” where she is sent on a heroic quest wrapped in Native American mythology.


Teased for his fair coloring, eleven-year-old Jimmy McClean travels with his maternal grandfather, Nyles High Eagle, to learn about his Lakota heritage while visiting places significant in the life of Crazy Horse, the nineteenth-century Lakota leader and warrior, in a tale that weaves the past with the present.


This is an anthology of stories about identity, culture, and spirituality told by writers and artists from a range of communities across North America including many creators that identify as Métis, Inuit, Dene, Anishnaabe, Cree, Mi’kmaq, Caddo, Haida, Sioux, and Suquamish, among others.


Two boys are sent by their people to the west to visit the Shiwana, the spirits of rain and snow, and bring back rain to relieve a drought.


A young girl in a Pacific Northwest Native American tribe in the 1920s must deal with the death of her father and the loss of her tribe's traditional ways.
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<tr>
<th>Call No.</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Edition</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800L</td>
<td>Rockwood, Joyce</td>
<td><em>To Spoil the Sun</em></td>
<td>New York: Henry Holt, 1976.</td>
<td>Forewarned by omens, an Indian village is struck by an &quot;invisible fire&quot; which actually is smallpox brought to America by European explorers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HL480L</td>
<td>Tingle, Tim</td>
<td><em>How I Became a Ghost: a Choctaw Trail of Tears Story</em></td>
<td>Oklahoma City: RoadRunner Press, 2013. (Other titles by author: <em>Crossing Bok Chitto</em>) A Choctaw boy tells the story of his tribe's removal from the only land its people had ever known, and how their journey to Oklahoma led him to become a ghost--one with the ability to help those he left behind.</td>
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<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Dembicki, Matt [Ed.]</td>
<td><em>Trickster: Native American Tales, a Graphic Collection</em></td>
<td>Golden, CO: Fulcrum, 2010. Collects over twenty trickster stories, in graphic novel format, from various Native American traditions, including tales about coyotes, rabbits, ravens, and other crafty creatures and their mischievous activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Whitethorne, Baje</td>
<td><em>Sunpainters: Eclipse of the Navajo Sun</em></td>
<td>Flagstaff, AZ: Salina Bookshelf, 2002. Explaining a solar eclipse, a Navajo tells his grandson that when the sun dies the children of Mother Earth are called from the four directions to repaint the universe in all the colors of the rainbow.</td>
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NONFICTION

N/A Dalal, Anita. *Native American Myths*. New York: Gareth Stevens Pub., 2010. 299.7 D15N

Myths of different Native American tribes told in age-appropriate language that reveals the culture, history, and religion of each society.


This is a children's book that deals with stereotypes and media misrepresentation of American Indian people on a simple level with a message acceptance for all. Easy read geared toward Early Childhood- birth to 5th grade. Even adults can relate to this story!

N/A Leatherdale, Mary Beth. [Ed.] *Urban Tribes: Native Americans in the City*. Toronto, ON: Annick Press, 2015. 305.897 UR12

Young, urban Natives share their diverse stories, shattering stereotypes and powerfully illustrating how Native culture and values can survive -- and enrich -- city life.


Traces the history of the North American movement to relocate Native American tribes in order to separate the whites from the Indians.


For over a century, Canada removed more than 150,000 Aboriginal children from their families to attend church-run residential schools, often in remote locations far from home. Why did Indian residential schools, as they were called, happen? How did they continue? Why did they stop? Most significantly, how did they affect the families and the children, now known as school survivors?


In the dark depths of winter, snow is falling and the animals are freezing and famished. Brave Crow sets out on a dangerous journey to find the Sun, and beg for warmth. Will Crow succeed, and what will happen to his colourful rainbow feathers?
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<tr>
<td>740L</td>
<td>Shaw, Stephanie</td>
<td>The Legend of the Beaver's Tail.</td>
<td>Ann Arbor, MI: Sleeping Bear Press, 2015</td>
<td>398.2089 SH284L</td>
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<td>Vain Beaver is inordinately proud of his silky tail, to the point where he alienates his fellow woodland creatures with his boasting. When it is flattened in an accident (of his own making), he learns to value its new shape and seeks to make amends with his friends. Based on an Ojibwe legend.</td>
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<td>1150L</td>
<td>Weitzman, David</td>
<td>Skywalkers: Mohawk Ironworkers Build the City.</td>
<td>New York: Roaring Brook Press, 2010</td>
<td>690.092 W439S</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Narrative text and photographs examines Native American history and the development of structural engineering and architecture, focusing on Mohawk ironworkers.</td>
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<td>1040L</td>
<td>Harrison, David L.</td>
<td>Mammoth Bones and Broken Stones: The Mystery of North America’s First People.</td>
<td>Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2010</td>
<td>970.01 H2457M</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Explores various theories of North America's first people using archaeological methods and artifacts.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NC1080L</td>
<td>Mann, Charles C.</td>
<td>Before Columbus: the Americas of 1491.</td>
<td>New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2009</td>
<td>970.01 M3152B</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>This study of Native American societies is adapted for younger readers to turn conventional wisdom on its head by arguing that the people of North and South America lived in enormous cities, raised pyramids hundreds of years before the Egyptians did, engineered corn, and farmed the rainforests.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>890L</td>
<td>Doak, Robin S.</td>
<td>Indian Americans.</td>
<td>Vero Beach, FL: Rourke Pub., 2008</td>
<td>973.0491 D65I</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Explores India's history, immigration to the U.S., discrimination of Indian Americans, and how they are contributing to the U.S.</td>
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<td>Readers learn from a unique first-person narrator about growing up as a</td>
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Powhatan child. Food, clothing, and shelter are covered in the main content, as well as historical context of tribes living near the Jamestown settlement.


Explains the Battle of the Little Bighorn, including its chronology, causes, and lasting effect.

**BIOGRAPHY**


Betty Mae Tiger Jumper was born in 1923, the daughter of a Seminole woman and a white man. She grew up in the Everglades under dark clouds of distrust among her tribe who could not accept her at first. As a child of a mixed marriage, she walked the line as a constant outsider. Growing up poor and isolated, she only discovered the joys of reading and writing at age 14. An iron will and sheer determination led her to success, and she returned to her people as a qualified nurse. When her husband was too sick to go to his alligator wrestling tourist job, gutsy Betty Mae climbed right into the alligator pit! Storyteller, journalist, and community activist, Betty Mae Jumper was a voice for her people, ultimately becoming the first female elected Seminole tribal leader.


This story reveals the life of a Native American boy named Wassaja, who was kidnapped from his tribe and sold as a slave. Adopted and renamed Carlos Montezuma, the young boy traveled throughout the Old West, bearing witness to the poor treatment of Native Americans. Carlos eventually became a doctor and leader for his people.


Discusses the life of the Shoshone woman who helped Lewis and Clark explore the western United States.
Sitting Bull (c. 1831-1890) was one of the greatest Lakota/Sioux warriors and chiefs who ever lived. From Sitting Bull's childhood -- killing his first buffalo at age 10 -- to being named war chief to leading his people against the U.S. Army, this book brings the story of the great chief to light. Sitting Bull was instrumental in the war against the invasive wasichus (white men) and was at the forefront of the combat, including the Battles of Killdeer Mountain and the Little Bighorn. He and Crazy Horse were the last Lakota/Sioux to surrender their people to the U.S. government and resort to living on a reservation.

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION


