

**Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center
Children's Library**

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Some Selected Books for Grades 2 – 5

Ancona, George (Maya). *Earth Daughter: Alicia of Acoma Pueblo*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1995. ISBN 0-689-80322-2. [40] pages.

A beautiful photo-essay about Alicia Histia, a young girl who learns the art of pottery-making from her family.

Belarde-Lewis, Miranda (Tlingit/Zuni). *Meet Lydia: A Native Girl from Southeast Alaska*. NMAI with Council Oak Books, 2004. ISBN 1-57178-147-1. 48 pages.

The third book in the *My World: Young Native Americans Today* series produced by the National Museum of the American Indian. Spend some time with Lydia as she shows what her life is like, from traditional Tlingit lessons to playing the trombone.

Big Crow, Moses Nelson (Lakota). *A Legend from Crazy Horse Clan*. Tipi Press, 1991. ISBN 1-877976-03-2. [36] pages.

The story of Tashia Gnupa, a young Lakota girl, and her raccoon, Mesu, who survive a buffalo stampede but find themselves all alone on the plains

Browne, Vee (Navajo), retold by. *Monster Slayer: A Navajo Folktale*. Northland Publishing, 1991. ISBN 0-87358-525-9. *Monster Birds: A Navajo Folktale*. Northland Publishing, 1993. ISBN 0-87358-558-5. Both [32] pages.

The twin sons of Changing Woman and Sunbearer use their weapons (lightning arrows & magic feathers) plus help from their Grandmother, Spider Woman, to defeat the Walking Giant and then the Monster Birds. Both these lengthy picture books are illustrated in watercolors by Baje Whitethorne (Navajo).

Bruchac, Joseph (Abenaki). *The Arrow Over the Door*. Dial Books for Young Readers, 1998. ISBN 0-8037-2078-5. 89 pages.

This story is based on a historical meeting of Quakers and Abenaki Indians during the Revolutionary War. It is told from the alternating viewpoints of Samuel, a Quaker and Stands Straight, an Abenaki.

Bruchac, Joseph (Abenaki). *Pushing Up the Sky: Seven Native American Plays for Children*. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2000. ISBN 0-8037-2168-4. 94 pages.

Seven traditional tales rewritten as short plays for reading or acting with easy-to-make props, scenery and costumes.

Bruchac, Joseph (Abenaki). *Skeleton Man*. HarperCollins, 2001. ISBN 0-06-029076-5. 114 pgs.

Molly wakes up and her parents have disappeared. Can she figure out what's going on in time to save herself and find her parents? The **2005 Connecticut Nutmeg Award** winner. Also look for *The Return of Skeleton Man*, HarperCollins, 2006.

Bruchac, Joseph and James (Abenaki). *When the Chenoo Howls: Native American Tales of Terror*. Walker and Company, 1998. ISBN 0-8027-8639-1. 136 pages.

Twelve scary stories of monsters, giants and flying heads from the Northeast. Some are set in the past and some are contemporary. Source notes and a pronunciation guide are included. Also available on two CDs read by the Bruchacs from Good Mind Records.

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. *Beaver Steals Fire: A Salish Coyote Story*, told by Johnny Arlee (Salish). University of Nebraska, 2005. ISBN 0-8032-4323-5. [64 pages].

This is the story of how the animals got fire from Curlew, keeper of the sky world. A note to teachers and parents discusses the importance of fire to the Salish and Pend d'Oreille. The **2006 American Indian Youth Literature Picture Book Award** winner.

Ekoomiak, Normee (Inuit). *Arctic Memories*. Henry Holt, 1990. ISBN 0-8050-1254-0. [32] pages.

In paintings, felt pictures and words, Mr. Ekoomiak tells about the Arctic of his childhood, before the tremendous changes of the late 20th century. The text is in English and Inuktitut.

Erdrich, Lise (Ojibwa). *Sacagawea*. Carolrhoda Books, Inc., 2003. ISBN 9-87614-646-9. [33] pages.

An account of the life of the courageous Shoshone woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark as an interpreter in the Corps of Discovery exploration of western United States. With an emphasis on Sacagawea's perspective. Artwork by Julie Buffalohead (Ponca).

Erdrich, Louise (Ojibwa). *The Birchbark House*. Hyperion Books for Children, 1999. ISBN 0-7868-0300-2. 244 pages.

Set on an island in Lake Superior in the late 1840s, this is the story of a year in the life of Omakayas. The **2006 American Indian Youth Literature Award** winner for middle school. Her family's life is changing as they are pushed out of their traditional homelands. Their story continues in the following two excellent books and Louise Erdrich is writing a fourth!

Erdrich, Louise (Ojibwa). *The Game of Silence*. HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN 0-06-029789-1. 256 pages.

Erdrich, Louise (Ojibwa). *The Porcupine Year*. HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN 978-0-06-029788-6. 193 pages.

Grace, Catherine O'Neill and Margaret M. Bruchac (Abenaki). *1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving*. National Geographic Society, 2001. ISBN 0-7922-7027-4. 47 pages.

Tells the story of the first contacts between the English settlers and the Wampanoags, dispelling the standard myths of the "First Thanksgiving." Produced in collaboration with the Wampanoag Indian Program at Plimoth Plantation and illustrated with photographs of the live

historical interpretations at Plimoth.

Indian Nations. Series. Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers. 1999-2000.

Series co-written by Native Americans about the culture and history of their people. Including chapters about the creation story, spiritual life, government, family, and contemporary life. With pictures and photographs.

Ipellie, Alooook (Inuit) with David MacDonald. *The Inuit Thought of It: Amazing Arctic Innovations*. Annick Press, 2007. ISBN 978-1-55451-088-7. 32 pages.

Illustrations and short descriptions of some of the objects, ideas, and games that the people of the North have created.

King, Edna (Ojibwa) and Jordan Wheeler (Cree). *Adventure on Thunder Island*. James Lorimer & Company, 1991. ISBN 1-55028-133-X. 95 pages.

Four short stories about contemporary children who have exciting experiences with supernatural people and events.

King, Thomas (Cherokee). *Coyote Solstice Tale*. Groundwood Books, 2009. ISBN 978-88899-929-0. [64] pages.

A funny and thoughtful original story in verse about Coyote and his friends visiting a shopping mall. The **2010 American Indian Youth Literature Picture Book Award** winner.

Lacapa, Michael (Apache/Hopi/Tewa). *Antelope Woman: An Apache Folktale*. Northland, 1992. ISBN 0-87358-543-7. 41 pages.

A longer picture book in which the author/illustrator retells the story of a mysterious young man and the woman who loves him.

Left Hand Bull, Jacqueline (Lakota) and Suzanne Haldane. *Lakota Hoop Dancer*. Dutton Children's Books, 1999. ISBN 0-525-45413-6. [32] pages.

Kevin Locke from Standing Rock Reservation in South Dakota travels extensively performing the hoop dance and teaching about his culture. Heavily illustrated with photographs.

Maher, Ramona. *Alice Yazzie's Year*. Tricycle Press, 2003. ISBN 1-58246-080-9. [32] pages.

Alice is an 11 year-old Navajo girl who lives with her grandfather. Here are some important events in twelve months of her life, from a trip to Disneyland to meeting a buffalo at the rodeo. This edition is illustrated by Shonto Begay (Navajo).

Marshall, Joseph M. III (Lakota). *How Not To Catch Fish and Other Adventures of Iktomi*. Circle Studios, 2005. ISBN 0-9768022-0-1. 55 pages.

Seven stories about Iktomi, retold and read (on a CD) by the author with illustrations by Joseph Chamberlain (Yankton Nakota) and music by John Two-Hawks (Oglala Sioux).

Monture, Joel (Mohawk). *Cloudwalker: Contemporary Native American Stories*. Fulcrum, 1996. ISBN 1-55591-225-7. 58 pages.

Short stories about life written from the perspectives of six contemporary Native American children. Life is not always easy for them, but they persevere.

Ortiz, Simon J. (Acoma Pueblo). *The Good Rainbow Road: Rawa 'Kashtyaa'tsi Hiyaani*. University of Arizona Press, 2004. ISBN 0-8165-2340-1. [64] pages.

An original story told in a traditional manner about two courageous boys who set out to save their people. Written in Keres, the language of Acoma Pueblo, and English, with a Spanish translation at the end of the book.

Otto, Simon (Ojibway/Odawa). *Walk in Peace: Legends and Stories of the Michigan Indians*. Michigan Indian Press, 1990. ISBN 0-9617707-5-9. 50 pages.

As a young boy, Mr. Otto would sit and listen to stories, the latest news in Indian Country, and legends told by his family and friends. He has shared some of these memories which are part of his life, heritage and culture in this book.

Peters, Russell (Mashpee Wampanoag). *Regalia: American Indian Dress and Dance*. Sundance, 1994. ISBN 1-56801-375-2. [16] pages.

An introduction to dancers, "real people who keep their traditional cultures alive", of varying ages from twelve tribes, illustrated with photographs of the dancers in their regalia and also in their everyday clothes. Also available as a kit with a cassette.

Rose, LaVera (Rosebud Sioux). *Grandchildren of the Lakota*. Carolrhoda Books, 1999. ISBN 1-57505-279-2. 47 pages.

Lots of photographs illustrate this informative essay about Lakota families, their past, present, and future. The author's grandchildren do all the things other children do and at the same time maintain their Lakota traditions and values.

Ross, Gayle (Cherokee). *How Rabbit Tricked Otter and Other Cherokee Trickster Stories*. HarperCollins, 1994. ISBN 0-06-021285-3. 79 pages.

This collection of stories is all about Rabbit, the trickster-hero of the Cherokee oral tradition. No matter what happens, Rabbit always emerges free to create some other mischief.

Ross, Sylvia (Chukchansi). *Lion Singer*. Heyday Books. ISBN 1-59714-0009-0. 33 pages.

Original story about a young boy's bravery to protect his sister whom he was supposed to be watching.

Secakuku, Susan (Hopi). *Meet Mindy: A Native Girl from the Southwest*. NMAI with Beyond Words Publishing, 2003. ISBN 1-58270-091-5. 48 pages.

The second in the *My World: Young Native Americans Today* series produced by the National Museum of the American Indian. Follows a teenage Hopi/Tewa girl as she explains about and participates in Hopi traditions and ceremonies, as well as everyday life like high school and football games.

Simermeter, Genevieve (Osage). *Meet Christopher: An Osage Indian Boy from Oklahoma*. NMAI with Council Oak Books, 2008. ISBN 1-57178-217-5. 48 pages.

The fourth in the *My World: Young Native Americans Today* series produced by the National Museum of the American Indian. Spend some time with Christopher Cote as he combines his family's Native traditions with popular 21st century activities. The **2010 American Indian Youth Literature Middle School Award** winner.

Smith, Cynthia Leitich (Muskogee Creek). *Indian Shoes*. Harper Collins, 2002. ISBN 0-06-029531-7. 66 pages.

Ray Halfmoon and Grampa Halfmoon are Seminole-Cherokee and live in Chicago. They have adventures involving moccasins, haircuts, an art show, and fishing.

Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk (Lakota). *Bad River Boys: A Meeting of the Lakota Sioux with Lewis and Clark*. Holiday House, 2005. ISBN 0-8234-1856-1. [32] pages.

“Let’s swim over to greet the *wasicus*, white men,” said Cloud, one of three young Lakota boys who spot a boat in the river. This is a fictional account of an encounter the Sicangu (Burnt Thigh Band of the Lakota) have with Lewis and Clark, written from a Lakota point of view.

Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk (Lakota). *The Chichi Hoohoo Bogeyman*. Bison Books, 2008. 978-0803217454. 64 pages.

Three girl cousins scare themselves by crossing the river, against family rules and see someone they think might really be a chichi hoohoo bogeyman.

Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk (Lakota). *First Americans*. Series. Holiday House, 1993-97.

A series about the histories and cultures of nine Native American Nations. Each book includes creation stories, the homelands, and life today.

Stroud, Virginia A (Cherokee). *Doesn’t Fall Off His Horse*. Dial Book for Young Readers, 1994. ISBN 0-8037-1634-6. [32] pages.

Based on the story of the author’s adoptive Kiowa grandfather, this is a beautifully illustrated picture book about a young man who counts coup by taking horses from a Comanche camp.

Tallchief, Maria (Osage) with Rosemary Wells. *Tallchief: America's Prima Ballerina*. Viking, 1999. ISBN 0-670-88756-0. 28 pages.

This picture book autobiography will inspire and delight dancers. It concludes as Ms. Tallchief leaves Los Angeles to join the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo at the age of seventeen.

Tapahonso, Luci (Navajo). *Songs of Shiprock Fair*. Kiva Publishing, 1999. ISBN 1-885772-11-4. [32] pages.

Throughout the year, everyone in Shiprock, New Mexico, prepares for the fair where they find old friends, share stories, and make new memories. This book celebrates that fair in an informative and fun way.

Tayac, Gabrielle (Piscataway). *Meet Naiche: A Native Boy from the Chesapeake Bay Area*. NMAI with Beyond Words Publishing, 2002. ISBN 1-58270-072-9. 48 pages.

A photo essay produced by the National Museum of the American Indian about Naiche Woosah Tayac, a young member of the Piscataway and Apache tribes. The second in the *My World: Young Native Americans Today* series produced by the National Museum of the American Indian.

Taylor, C. J. (Mohawk). *How We Saw the World: Nine Native Stories of the Way Things Began*. Tundra Books, 1993. ISBN 0-88776-302-2. [32] pages.

Stories about things like why dogs are people's friends, how horses came into the world and the first tornado, from nine Native American cultures.

Tookoome, Simon (Inuit) with Sheldon Oberman. *The Shaman's Nephew: A Life in the Far North*. Stoddart Kids, 2000. ISBN 0-7737-3200-4. 55 pages.

Tookoome's stories and memories, translated by his daughter, with his illustrations, tell of his traditional life.

We Are Still Here. Series. Lerner Publications, 1992-98.

A series of excellent photo-essays by Native American authors. Each title features an individual Native child learning about his or her culture from family members.

When the Rain Sings: Poems by Young Native Americans. National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution and Simon & Schuster, 1999. ISBN 0-689-82283-9. 75 pages.

A collection of poems written by young Native people. Their poetry is inspired by or matched with photographs of artifacts and people from the National Museum of the American Indian.

White, Ellen (Salish). *Kwulasulwut: Stories From the Coast Salish*. Theytus Books, 1992. ISBN 0-919441-45-9. 76 pages. *Kwulasulwut II: Mores Stories form the Coast Salish*. Theytus Books, 1997. ISBN 0-919441-54-8. 79 pages.

Ellen White, whose Salish name is Kwulasulwut, has adapted these stories about life's lessons from both traditional and original stories that she tells in her role as teacher and storyteller.

Some of these books can be ordered from Oyate at www.oyate.org.

[] Unnumbered pages