
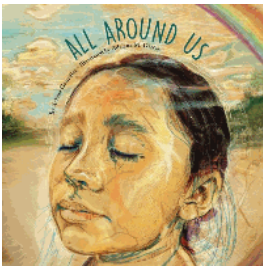
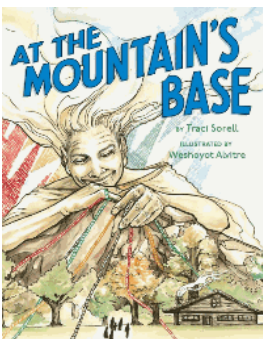

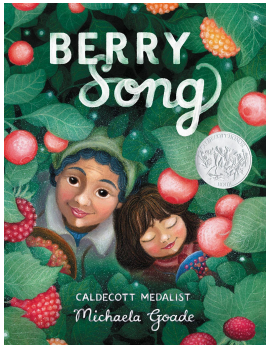



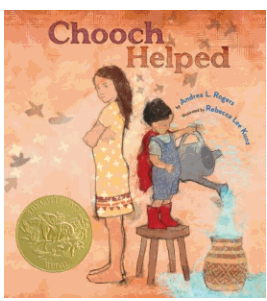
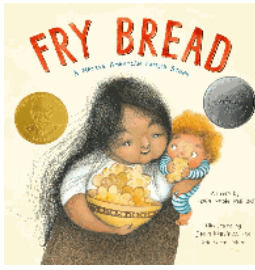

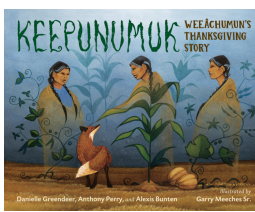
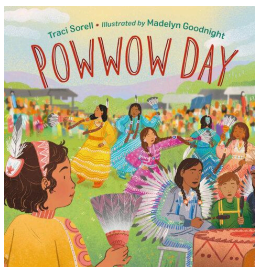


Native American Inclusive Book Recommendations 2024

Drawn from expertly curated lists, these books by and about individuals who identify as Native American, American Indian, or Indigenous are available at the Sato Elementary Library

	Title	Author	Interest Level	Summary
Picture Books				
	<i>47,000 Beads</i>	Koja Adeyoha and Angel Adeyoha (Oglala Lakota)	K-3	Peyton loves to dance, and especially at pow wow, but her Auntie notices that she's been dancing less and less. When Peyton shares that she just can't be comfortable wearing a dress anymore, Auntie Eyota asks some friends for help to get Peyton what she needs.
	<i>All Around Us</i>	Xelena Gonzalez (Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation), Adriana M. Garcia	K-3	Finding circles everywhere, a grandfather and his granddaughter meditate on the cycles of life and nature.
	<i>At the Mountain's Base</i> 	Traci Sorell (Cherokee)	K-3	At the mountain's base sits a cabin under an old hickory tree. And in that cabin lives a [Native American] family -- loving, weaving, cooking, and singing. The strength in their song sustains them through trials on the ground and in the sky, as they wait for their daughter/sister/granddaughter/niece, a pilot, to return from war.

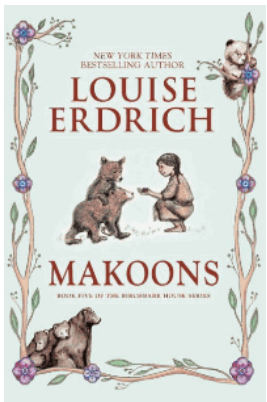
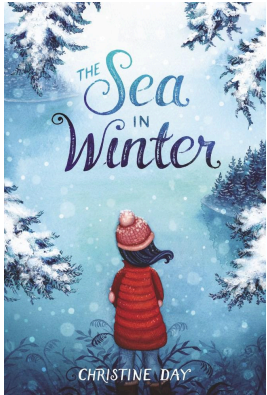
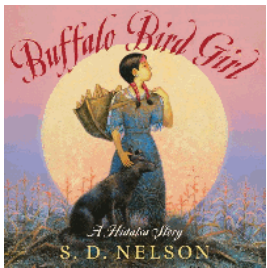
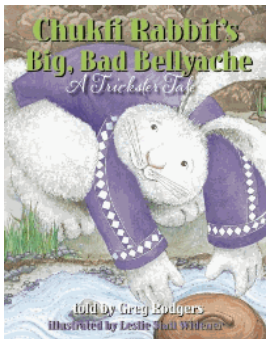
	<i>Berry Song</i>	Michaela Goade (Tlingit & Haida)	K-3	As a young Tlingit girl collects wild berries over the seasons, she sings with her Grandmother as she learns to speak to the land and listen when the land speaks back.
	<i>Birdsong</i> 	Julie Flett (Cree-Metis)	K-3	When a young girl moves to her new home far away from the sea, she feels lonely and out of place. But soon she meets an elderly woman next door, who shares her love of nature and art. As the seasons change, can the girl navigate the failing health of her new friend?
	<i>Bowwow Powwow</i>	Brenda J. Child (Red Lake Ojibwe), translated into Ojibwe by Gordon Jourdain (Lac La Croix First Nation), and Jonathan Thunder (Red Lake Ojibwe)		When Uncle and Windy Girl attend a powwow, Windy watches the dancers and listens to the singers. She eats tasty food and joins family and friends around the campfire. Later, Windy falls asleep under the stars. Uncle's stories inspire visions in her head: a bowwow powwow, where all the dancers are dogs.
	<i>Chooch Helped</i>	Andrea L. Rogers, Rebecca Lee Kunz	K-3	A Cherokee girl begrudgingly introduces her younger brother to their family's traditions.

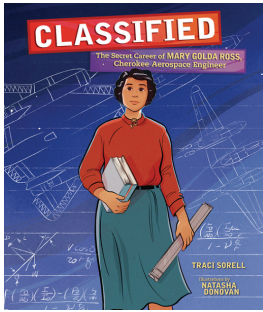

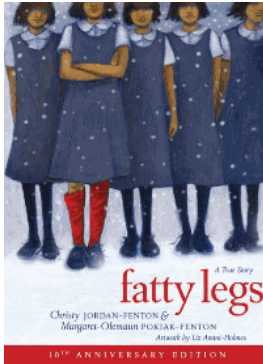

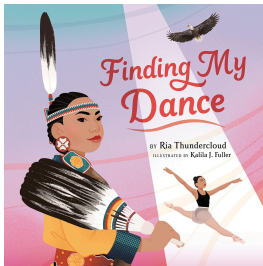
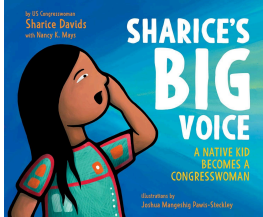

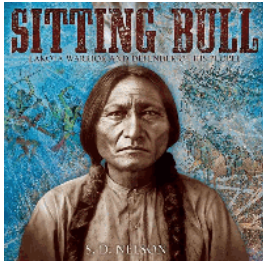
	<p><i>Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story</i></p> 	<p>Kevin Noble Maillard (Seminole)</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>Follows a Native American family as they make fry bread and celebrate their culture.¹</p>
	<p><i>Keepunumuk: Weeâchumun's Thanksgiving Story</i></p>	<p>Danielle Greendeer (Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, Hawk Clan), Anthony Perry (Chickasaw), Alexis Buntun (Aleut/Yup'ik), Garry Meeches Sr. (Anishinaabe)</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>Wampanoag children listen as their grandmother tells them the story about how Weeâchumun (the wise Corn) asked local Native Americans to show the Pilgrims how to grow food to yield a good harvest--Keepunumuk--in 1621.</p>
	<p><i>My Powerful Hair</i></p>	<p>Carole Lindstrom (Anishinabe/Metis); illustrated by Steph Littlebird (Grand Ronde)</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>After generations of short hair in her family, a little girl celebrates growing her hair long to connect to her culture and honor the strength and resilience of those who came before her.</p>
	<p><i>Powwow Day</i></p>	<p>Traci Sorell (Cherokee Nation), illustrated by Madelyn Goodnight (Chickasaw Nation)</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>Because she has been very ill and weak, River cannot join in the dancing at this year's tribal powwow, she can only watch from the sidelines as her sisters and cousins dance the celebration--but as the drum beats she finds the faith to believe that she will recover and dance again.</p>



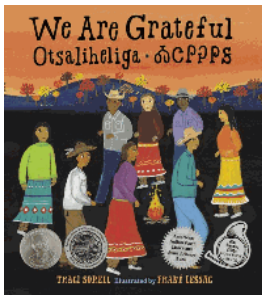

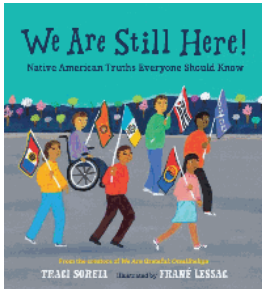
¹ The endpapers include names of over 500 tribal nations with a nation-to-nation relationship with the United States, but it also includes several groups recognized by a state (like the group anyone on earth can join--for a price--called the United Cherokee Nation that is recognized by the state of Alabama, but its offices are in New Mexico). Those endpapers are empowering to legitimate nations, but inclusion of sketchy ones is of significant concern because including them legitimizes the harm they do.

	<i>Remember</i>	Joy Harjo (Mvskoke Nation) and Micaela Goade (Tlingit and Haida)	K-3	Picture book adaptation of US Poet Laureate Joy Harjo's iconic poem, <i>Remember</i> .
	<i>We Are Water Protectors</i>	Carole Lindstrom (Anishinabe/Metis); illustrated by Michaela Goade (Tlingit & Haid)	K-3	Water is the first medicine. It affects and connects us all. When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people's water, one young water protector takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource.
Graphic and Illustrated Novels				
Chapter Books				
	<i>Code Talker</i>	Joseph Bruchac (Nulhegan Abenaki)	5-8	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.
	<i>How I Became a Ghost: A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story</i>	Tim Tingle (Choctaw)	3-6	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.

	<p><i>I Can Make This Promise</i></p> 	<p>Christine Day (Upper Skagit)</p>	<p>5-8</p>	<p>When twelve-year-old Edie finds letters and photographs in her attic that change everything she thought she knew about her Native American mother's adoption, she realizes she has a lot to learn about her family's history and her own identity. Winner American Indian Library Association Youth Literature Award.</p>
	<p><i>In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse</i></p> 	<p>Joseph Marshall III (Lakota)</p>	<p>5-8</p>	<p>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</p>
	<p><i>Indian No More</i></p>	<p>Charlene Willing McManis (Umpqua)</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>Regina Petit's family has always been Umpqua, and living on the Grand Ronde reservation is all ten-year-old Regina has ever known. Her biggest worry is that Sasquatch may actually exist out in the forest. But when the federal government signs a bill into law that says Regina's tribe no longer exists, Regina becomes 'Indian no more' overnight.</p>
	<p><i>Jo Jo Makoons: The Used-To-Be Best Friend</i></p>	<p>Dawn Quigley (Turtle Mountain Onibwe), Tara Audibert (Wolastoqiyik)</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>Jo Jo Makoons Azure is a spirited seven-year-old who moves through the world a little differently than anyone else on her Ojibwe reservation. It always seems like her mom, her kokum (grandma), and her teacher have a lot to learn--about how good Jo Jo is at cleaning up, what makes a</p>

				good rhyme, and what it means to be friendly.
	<i>Makoons</i>	Louise Erdrich (Chippewa)	3-6	Living with their Ojibwe family on the Great Plains of Dakota Territory in 1866, twin brothers Makoons and Chickadee must learn to become buffalo hunters, but Makoons has a vision that foretells great challenges that his family may not be able to overcome.
	<i>The Sea in Winter</i>	Christine Day (Upper Skagit)	3-6	After an injury sidelines her dreams of becoming a ballet star, Maisie is not excited for her blended family's midwinter road trip along the coast, near the Makah community where her mother grew up.
Nonfiction				
	<i>Buffalo Bird Girl</i>	S.D. Nelson (Standing Rock Sioux)	3-6	A picture book biography that examines the life of Buffalo Bird Woman, a Hidatsa Native American who lived during the 1800s.
	<i>Chukfi Rabbit's Big, Bad Bellyache: A Trickster Tale</i>	Greg Rodgers (Choctaw)	K-3	Bear, Turtle, Fox, and Beaver agree to build Ms. Possum a new house, but Chukfi Rabbit says he is too busy to help until he hears there will be a Choctaw feast afterwards and helps himself to a treat while the work is being done.

	<p><i>Classified: The Secret Career of Mary Golda Ross, Cherokee Aerospace Engineer</i></p> 	<p>Traci Sorell</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>Mary Golda Ross designed classified projects for Lockheed Aircraft Corporation as the company's first female engineer. Find out how her passion for math and the Cherokee values she was raised with shaped her life and work.</p>
	<p><i>Fatty Legs: A True Story</i></p> 	<p>Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton (Inuvialuit)</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>Margaret Pokiak-Fenton tells the story of her experiences as an eight-year-old Inuit girl in a church-run school in Aklavik, Canada, where her strong will made her the target of a mean-spirited nun.</p>
	<p><i>Finding My Dance</i></p>	<p>Ria Thundercloud (Ho-Chunk Nation and Sandia Pueblo) and Kalila J Fuller</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>In her debut picture book, professional Indigenous dancer Ria Thundercloud tells the true story of her path to dance and how it helped her take pride in her Native American heritage.</p>
	<p><i>Sharice's Big Voice: A Native Kid Becomes a Congresswoman</i></p> 	<p>Sharice Davids (Ho-Chunk), Nancy K. Mays, Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley (Wasauksing First Nation)</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>This inspiring picture book autobiography tells the remarkable story of Sharice Davids, one of the first Native American women elected to Congress and the first LGBTQ congressperson to represent Kansas.</p>
	<p><i>Sitting Bull: Lakota Warrior and Defender of his People</i></p>	<p>S. D. Nelson (Standing Rock Sioux)</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>An illustrated biography of Sitting Bull, told from the perspective of the Lakota chief himself.</p>

	<p><i>The Grizzly Mother</i></p> 	<p>Brett D Huson (Gitxsan Nation)</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>To the Gitxsan people of Northwestern British Columbia, the grizzly is an integral part of the natural landscape. Together, they share the land and forests that the Skeena River runs through, as well as the sockeye salmon within it. The Mothers of Xsan series uses striking illustration and lyrical language to bring the poetry of the Xsan ecosystem to life.</p>
	<p><i>We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga</i></p> 	<p>Traci Sorell (Cherokee)</p>	<p>K-3</p>	<p>The word otsaliheliga (oh-jah-LEE-hay-lee-gah) is used by members of the Cherokee Nation to express gratitude. Beginning in the fall with the new year and ending in summer, follow a full Cherokee year of celebrations and experiences.</p>
	<p><i>We Are Still Here!</i></p>	<p>Traci Sorell (Cherokee)</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>Twelve Native American children present the history of Indigenous peoples in the United States and their relationship with the U.S. government for Indigenous Peoples' Day at their school. Topics include assimilation, relocation, perseverance, activism, resilience, economic development, language revival, and sovereign resurgence.</p>
<p>References and Additional Resources</p>				
<p>American Indian Youth Literature Award</p>	<p>Awarded biennially, the AIYLA identifies and honors the very best writing and illustrations by Native Americans and Indigenous peoples of North America.</p>			
<p>American Indians in Children's Literature</p>	<p>AICL provides critical perspectives and analysis of indigenous peoples in children's and young adult books, the school curriculum, popular culture, and society.</p>			
<p>Colorin Colorado</p>	<p>A bilingual site for educators and families of English language learners with resources for teachers, parents, and families including American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Booklists.</p>			

Confluence	Collection of videos and other educational resources about local Tribes' historical and ongoing connections to the Columbia and Willamette River ecosystems.
Diverse Book Finder	An extensive collection of picture books featuring Black and Indigenous people and People of Color (BIPOC). *Inclusion of a title in the collection DOES NOT EQUAL a recommendation.*
EmbraceRace	Guidelines for choosing excellent children's books by and about American Indians
Oregon Blue Book	Information about the economy, points of interest, history, and culture of Oregon's nine native tribes
Social Justice Books	Carefully selected lists of multicultural and social justice books for children, young adults, and educators including American Indians and Indigenous Peoples/Native Nations.
Wisdom of the Elders	Wisdom records, preserves, and shares oral history, cultural arts, language concepts, and traditional ecological knowledge of exemplary Native American elders, storytellers, and scientists in collaboration with diverse institutions, agencies and organizations.



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