

## **Indian Values an Introduction**

### **Objective/ “I can” statement**

I can identify how a character’s experiences shape or even impact their values.

I can explain how life experiences shape our values by making connections.

### **Montana Content Standards**

**Determine a theme or central idea of a text; analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; and provide an objective summary of the text. (RL.8.2)**

**Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision. (RL.8.3)**

**Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new and include texts by and about American Indians. (RL.8.9)**

**Essential Understanding 3: The ideologies of Native traditional beliefs and spirituality persist into modern day life as tribal cultures, traditions, and languages are still practiced by many American Indian people and are incorporated into how tribes govern and manage their affairs.**

**Additionally, each tribe has its own oral histories, which are as valid as written histories. These histories predate the “discovery” of North America.**

### **Teacher Directions for Asynchronous Work:**

1. Begin by asking students what values are with an “open discussion.” (Verbal, Jamboard, sticky notes)
2. Values Slide Show
  - a. <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1vFYn5RKfuzreLMXMcy8TIZxJgw2APFJcK-bH-cjNcTQ/edit?usp=sharing>
  - b. Slide Two with directions can be customized to be used for in person (paper) or virtual with a Google Slide or Jamboard
3. Lakota folklore values Assignment
4. Cultural values Assignment

## **Student Directions for Asynchronous Work:**

### **Lakota folklore values**

1. Watch the video What is a Folklore? independently.
2. Then, read each of the folklore stories brought forth by the Lakota tribe. Each story focuses on a value in which we will be discussing further in detail. Think, how do these values impact my own life? What connection can I make between my own experiences and the ones described in the story? How do the values impact the choices or life experiences in the short stories?
3. In a MLA formatted document, write a response for each of these stories. Each response should have three sentences. The first two sentences show how that specific value is demonstrated in the story. For example, how is wisdom shown through the character's experiences in "The Story of the Woman who Gossiped?" Then, you should make a text to self connection. Share about your own life experience where you learned this value. (5 points for each written response per story, 5 points for MLA format, 5 points for grammar)

<https://study.com/academy/lesson/what-is-folklore-definition-legends-myths.html>

### **Lakota short stories:**

1. Wisdom: "The Story of the Woman who Gossiped"  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DEgXAWq-I6B2XU-82khRNF71\\_7IBUhID/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DEgXAWq-I6B2XU-82khRNF71_7IBUhID/view?usp=sharing)
2. Truth: "The Story of the Trickster's Song"  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-ZttePTGCr4eaYxsq0K\\_6zhiag18rQn\\_/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-ZttePTGCr4eaYxsq0K_6zhiag18rQn_/view?usp=sharing)
3. Perseverance: "The Story of the Giants"  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fVYPPhgA1MFdNV\\_RvwLiWQH24-MaaYGc/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fVYPPhgA1MFdNV_RvwLiWQH24-MaaYGc/view?usp=sharing)
4. Bravery: Being Brave  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HDJGcO7f1sHSF2Ho8TA0E66wTmkCpmQa/view?usp=sharing>
5. Respect: "The Story of the Deer Woman"  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19yqMDY1iQSPMa1u8BbCjU3u-OAsgebRh/view?usp=sharing>

Marshall, J. M., III. (2002). *The Lakota way: Stories and lessons for living*. New York, NY: Penguin Compass.

### **Cultural values**

1. As you watch the video posted below (How the Past Was Lost and What We Can Do to Get it Back - Selena Ditmar), think about the value folktales you read the other day. What does Selena Ditmar highlight in her story sharing about why maybe her culture has lost some of their values? What values have been lost?

2. In a short response (two sentences minimum), write about one value you think Selena Dirmar would encourage individuals to teach. Think about the values discussed in the film and the values we read about.

3. Then, remember, good readers make connections! Write a connection response to at least two peers. Your response should consist of a text to self, text to text, or text to world. Be sure to be authentic in your response; responses such as "I agree" are not authentic.

<https://youtu.be/FLXKTBjZV3E>

### **Optional Extension:**

1. While this lesson can be adapted to any novel that is focusing on character development, it was designed around Study Sync Unit 3: A Moral Compass.
  - a. This can be taught prior to reading a novel, after a novel has been introduced, or to help make text to text connections between novels and short stories. The novel used during this unit is *If I Ever Get Out of Here* by Eric Gansworth.

2. The reading of the Lakota short story activities can also be conducted through a jigsaw activity. The following jigsaw activity was used in an Honors English class. They are currently reading the novel *If I Ever Get Out of Here*.

Student directions for jigsaw activity:

- a. 1. In your group, read your assigned story.
- b. 2. Then, you need to discuss with your group how the main character's life experiences are shaped because of that value. Think, did they learn something about that value? Did they have an experience in which they learned that value? Did they have an experience where they used that value?
- c. 3. Then, you ALSO need to discuss how that value is shown within the novel, *If I Ever Get Out of Here*. How does one or more of our characters have a connection to that value.
  - i. Be ready to share with the class about the value in the story and also how it is connected to our novel in YOUR opinion.