

Peekskill City School District Honors Native American/ Indigenous People Heritage Month



November 2024

Curated by:
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Our Promise



Peekskill's Promise

Our Mission is to educate and empower all students to strive for excellence as life-long learners who embrace diversity and are contributing members of a global society.



**Rigorous
PreK-12 Aligned
and Culturally
Responsive
Academics**



**Robust
Literacy
and STEAM
Opportunities**



**Whole-Child
Commitment**



**Enrichment
Experiences
For All**



**Powerful
Parent, Family
and Community
Partnerships**

Celebrating our Diversity

As part of our growing efforts to honor our diversity, we are recognizing various cultures throughout the year. This month, we are honoring Native American/Indigenous Peoples' Heritage Month. This national recognition is an important time to learn about the accomplishments and stories of those who are important to our national history. Please enjoy these resources curated by Dr. Daniels and others to assist you in sharing them with your students.

**Dr. David Mauricio,
Superintendent**





Native American Heritage Month, celebrated in November, was officially recognized in the United States in 1990 when President George H.W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating November as "National American Indian Heritage Month"; this stemmed from early efforts by activists like Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca archaeologist, who pushed for a national day to honor Native Americans, leading to New York becoming the first state to recognize "American Indian Day" in 1916. Key points about the history of Native American Heritage Month:

Early Advocacy:

Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Native American, played a significant role in pushing for Native American recognition, particularly in New York state.

First State Recognition:

New York became the first state to recognize "American Indian Day" in May 1916.

Federal Recognition:

In 1990, Congress passed a joint resolution and President George H.W. Bush signed it, officially establishing November as "National American Indian Heritage Month".

Reason for November:

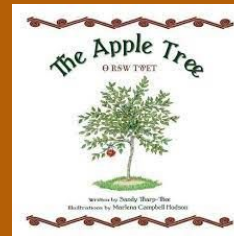
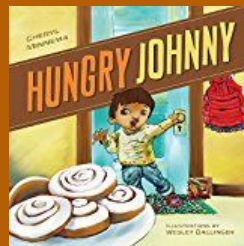
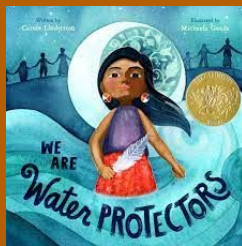
The month of November was chosen as it generally coincides with the end of the traditional harvest season, considered a time of celebration for many Native American tribes.

2024 National Theme:

"Affirming Native Voices: Visibility, Leadership, Service".

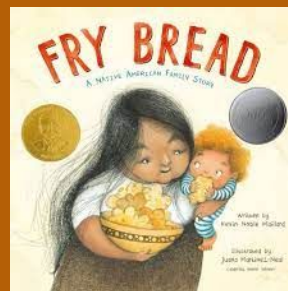
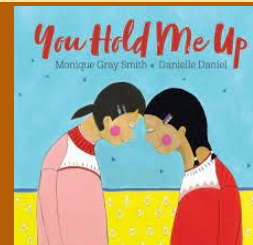
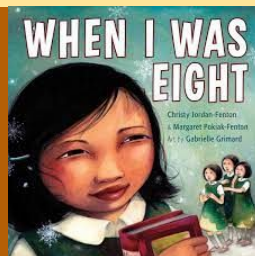
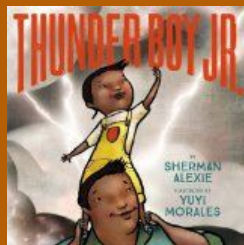
This theme highlights the importance of elevating ***Native American and Alaska Native voices***, recognizing their commitment to service, and reflecting their perspective.





Native American Heritage Month 2022

Click on
book to hear
the YouTube
read aloud



Elementary Reading Resources

Recommended Secondary Reading *(available at the PHS library)*

Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley

Not Your Princess edited by Lisa Charleyboy & Lisa Leatherdale

If I Ever Get Out of Here by Eric Gansworth

Give me Some Truth by Eric Gansworth

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

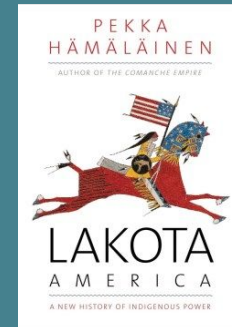
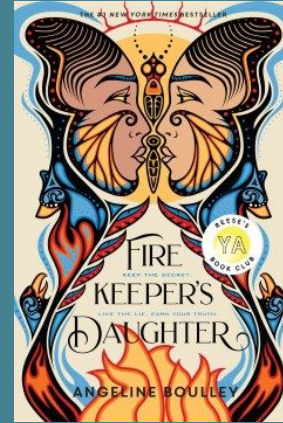
One Real American: The Life of Ely S. Parker, Seneca Sachem and Civil War General by Joseph Bruchac

Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians but Were Afraid to Ask

An Indigenous People's History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

Lakota America: a New History of Indigenous Power by Pekka Hämäläinen

[Click here to access the PHS Library catalog](#)



A man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a blue and black plaid shirt, is speaking directly to the camera. He is in a living room with a brown leather couch behind him. On the wall, there is a framed poster of a Native American figure and a framed photograph. To the right, there is a dark wooden bookshelf filled with books. The lighting is warm and indoor.

NOW

THIS

The Origins of Native American Heritage Month

Online Resources

[Proclamation National Native American Heritage Month 2024](#)

[Native American Heritage Month \(Library of Congress\)](#)

[National Museum of the American Indian \(Locations in both Washington, D.C. and New York City\)](#)

[22 Ways to Celebrate Native American Heritage Month](#)

[Department of Environmental Conservation - Diversity and Inclusion](#)

[US Department of Defense - National Native American Heritage Month](#)

[Native American Heritage Month Resource Toolkit \(from the National Women's History Museum\)](#)

[Information on Land Acknowledgements \(Cornell University American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program\)](#)

[Native Land \(A resource for learning more about indigenous territories\)](#)

[Honoring Native American Heritage Month with Kids](#)



Photo: [National Park Service](#)

Video Resources

Native American Culture-Language: The Key to Everything

Happy National Native American Heritage Month! (from Deb Haaland, first Native American Secretary of the Department of the Interior)

Celebrating Native American Heritage Month (Native youth discuss how they share their culture and engage with the issues within their communities on BBC My World)

The logo for Native American Heritage Month is displayed within a white rectangular box with a black border. The word "NATIVE" is in a bold, dark red font. Below it, the word "AMERICAN" is in a bold, teal blue font. Underneath that, the words "HERITAGE MONTH" are in a smaller, dark grey font.

Recommended Reading (available through Westchester Library System)

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: an Indian History of the American West by Dee Brown

Custer Died for Your Sins: an Indian Manifesto by Vine Deloria, Jr.

Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Trail of Tears: the Rise and Fall of the Cherokee Nation by John Ehle

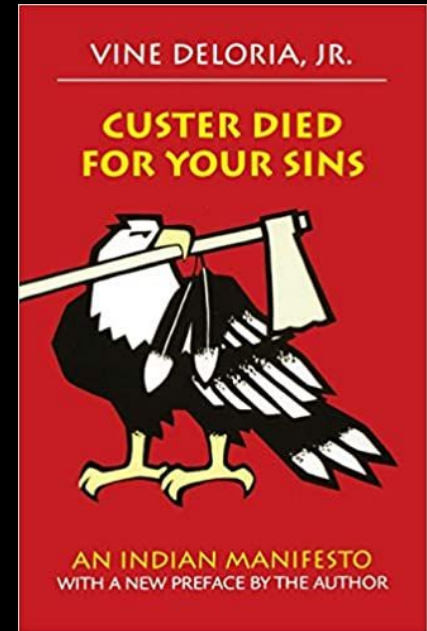
Notable Native People: 50 Indigenous Leaders, Dreamers, and Changemakers from Past and Present by Adrienne Keene

There There by Tommy Orange

The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee : Native America from 1890 to the Present by David Treuer

[Click here to access the Westchester Library System catalog](#)

[New York Public Library - Native American Heritage Month](#)



Celebrate
**NATIVE AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH**
2024



May your life be
like a wildflower, growing
freely in the beauty and joy
of each day. -Native American Proverb