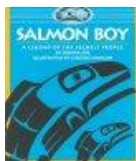


Celebrating Cultures: First Nations

These books have been specially selected for families to share with young children to develop an appreciation of the religious diversity in our community. This booklist was developed in cooperation with Surrey's Neighbouring Faiths Program. To learn more about SNFP and the 9 affiliated faith groups, please visit <http://www.snfp.ca>

Salmon boy : a legend of the Sechelt people **Retold by Donna Joe, illustrated by Charlie Craigan**

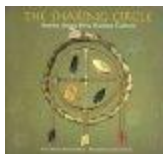


[Check Library Catalog](#)

Simple and compelling First Nations drawings illustrate this dynamic story that teaches respect for the environment and describes the life cycle of the salmon.

The sharing circle : stories about First Nations culture **Text by Theresa Meuse-Dallien, illustrations by Arthur Stevens**

[Check Library Catalog](#)



The Sharing Circle is a collection of seven stories about First Nations culture and spiritual practices: The Eagle Feather, The Dream Catcher, The Sacred Herbs, The Talking Circle, The Medicine Wheel, The Drum, and The Medicine Pouch. Researched and written by Mi'kmaw children's author Theresa Meuse-Dallien, and beautifully illustrated by Mi'kmaw illustrator Arthur Stevens, this book will engage and inform children of all ages.

Secret of the dance **Story by Andrea Spalding and Alfred Scow, illustrations by Darlene Gait**

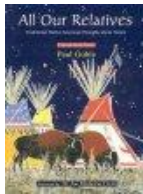
[Check Library Catalog](#)



In 1935, when the Canadian government bans the potlatch ceremony, Wat'kina's tribe holds an illegal potlatch, and he sneaks out of his bed to watch.

All our relatives : traditional Native American thoughts about nature

Compiled and illustrated by Paul Goble



[Check Library Catalog](#)

Presents quotations, songs, dreams, and tales about the life of the Plains Indians and how their ceremonies express the interdependence of creation and the presence of the Creator in all things.

Giving thanks : a Native American good morning message

By Chief Jake Swamp, illustrated by Erwin Printup, Jr.



[Check Library Catalog](#)

Highly stylized acrylic paintings form a handsome backdrop to this ancient Iroquois message of thanksgiving, adapted for children by a chief of the Mohawk nation. A salute to Mother Earth and all her beauty, the "good morning message" is traditionally delivered at the beginning of each day and at special ceremonies. Its simple, timeless language bears witness to the Native American reverence for the natural world and sense of unity with all living things.

Brother eagle, sister sky : a message from Chief Seattle

Paintings by Susan Jeffers

[Check Library Catalog](#)



"How can you buy the sky? How can you own the rain and the wind?" So begin the moving words attributed to a great American Indian chief--Chief Seattle--over 100 years ago. They are words that eloquently capture the central belief of Native Americans: that this earth and every creature on it is sacred. It is this belief that inspired Susan Jeffers' extraordinary full-color paintings.

Between earth & sky : legends of Native American sacred places

Written by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by Thomas Locker

[Check Library Catalog](#)



More than a guide to places sacred to Native Americans, this reverent book prompts readers to look within themselves to find the hallowed ground that "sets our spirits on the right path." While visiting ancestral land, a Native American man shares with his nephew 10 legends of sacred places from all Seven Directions: East, North, West, South-and Above, Below, and Within.

The path of the quiet elk : a Native American alphabet book
By Virginia A. Stroud

[Check Library Catalog](#)



While accompanying the tribal elder Wisdom Keeper on a woodland walk, a Native American girl discovers that the path they follow is "not a place, but a way of learning to look at life." This lyrical alphabet book, drawn from Native American teachings, tells of twenty-six different ways to remember our interconnectedness with everything on the earth.

How we saw the world : nine Native stories of the way things began
By C.J. Taylor

[Check Library Catalog](#)



An anthology of nine tales from different Native American traditions that explain how various physical and living aspects of the world came into being. Some are humorous, like the Mohawk story, "Why Rabbits and Owls Look the Way They Do." Others are moralistic-the islands off the coast of British Columbia, according to the Bella Coola, were formed from the bodies of unkind people who would not help an orphan in need. All of the selections reflect the hand of the Creator, an abiding sense of justice, and a love of natural beauty.

The Native Stories from Keepers of the Earth
Told by Joseph Bruchac

A beautiful collection representing several aboriginal groups of North America, including Inuit, Micmac, Mohawk and Hopi. A common thread throughout these stories is a view of the world as family - earth as our mother, sun as our father and the animals as our brothers and sisters. The stories foster an ethic of stewardship by clearly showing that we are entrusted with the responsibility to maintain the natural balance, to take care of our mother, to be keepers of the earth. Each story is beautifully illustrated by Mohwak artist John Kahionhes Fadden.

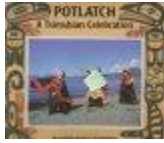
Storm Boy
by Paul Owen Lewis

After a violent seastorm, a Haida prince washes ashore of an unfamiliar village inhabited by strange and colossal creatures. The young prince has entered the supernatural realm of the killer whale people and his spiritual journey begins. Powerful illustrations make stunning use of northwest coast Native American motifs which, combined with Lewis' unique style, create a compelling atmosphere of mystery.

Potlatch : a Tsimshian celebration

By Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith, photographs by Lawrence Migdale

[Check Library Catalog](#)

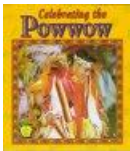


David, who is of mixed Native American and European heritage and a member of the Tsimshian tribe, explains the meaning of potlatch, an event that is part of a deeply rooted tradition in the life of many Northwest Coast Indians. Color photographs picture members of the Tsimshian tribe on Annette Island, Alaska, and capture some of the excitement and complexity involved in potlatch activities--from gift making and dancing to dedicating totem poles. The photos work nicely with the text to reveal the history, pride, and spirituality involved as the community comes together to celebrate the important event.

Celebrating the powwow

By Bobbie Kalman

[Check Library Catalog](#)

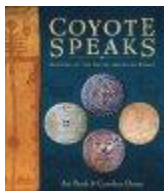


Examines Native American powwow celebrations, discussing the preparation, grand entry, competitions, traditional costumes, instruments, and symbols.

Coyote speaks : wonders of the Native American world

By Ari Berk & Carolyn Dunn

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Coyote Speaks explains how to look at and appreciate Native American culture. For thousands of years, tribal ways and wisdom have been passed down in story, song, dance, and art from elder to child, from tribe to tribe, and from Native peoples to the world at large. This book gathers many of these beliefs and traditions, enabling the outsider to appreciate the vast and diverse world of the First People. Among the subjects addressed are: the meanings of certain animals and symbols, what shamans and medicine people do, and how the natural world, the animal world, and the spirit world interact.

Powwow's coming

By Linda Boyden

[Check Library Catalog](#)



Powwow's Coming provides children with a foundation for understanding and celebrating the enduring culture and heritage of American Indians. Boyden's exquisite cut-paper collage and engaging poem visually place readers within the scenes of a contemporary Native American community while offering a thoughtful look at powwows and their meanings to the Native participants.
