

November is American Indian Heritage Month

CONTEXT:

“The month is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. Heritage Month is also an opportune time to educate the general public about tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in the present, and the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges” - [National Congress of American Indians](#)

(UN)LEARNING RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS:

The US has a troubled past with the colonization of Native lands and the deculturalization of American Indian people.

- You can [listen here](#) or [read here](#) to learn more about the oppressive actions that worked to assimilate all American Indians to colonial customs and values
- The book *Deculturalization and the Struggle for Equality: A Brief History of the Education of Dominated Cultures in the United States* by Joel Spring offers a more in-depth look

[Unlearning Columbus Day](#)

[Native American is Not a Costume](#)

[Terminology](#)

Relationships with nature: [food](#) and [animals](#)

CLASSROOM RESOURCES:

[Daily bits of information for the month of November](#) (from Kara Stewart, OCS employee and Sappony tribe member)

- Can be pre-recorded for morning news segments or shared in morning circle/ as part of morning work

Tribal lands - county, state, country, North America

- [Map of NC Tribal Lands](#)
- Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation (Orange and Alamance Counties)

- [Official website](#)
- [Short \(7min\) documentary](#)
- [Pow Wow video](#)

Thanksgiving

- [Native Perspectives on Thanksgiving](#)

Books and Lesson Ideas:

- [We are Grateful](#) (Links to video read-aloud included. Library also has many copies. Please practice pronunciations if you choose to read aloud!)
- [My Heart Fills with Happiness](#) (More appropriate for K-3)
- [Pow Wows Coming/ Pow Wow Jamboard Exploration](#) (Includes video and audio read aloud, choral read aloud, and self-guided Pow Wow exploration w/ Jamboard. Ask Perrone if you need more info!)
- We are Water Protectors (in Library)
- Bowwow Powwow (in Library)
- Fry Bread (in Library)
- Classified: The Secret Career of Mary Golda Ross, Cherokee Aerospace Engineer (in Library)
- She Sang Promise: The Story of Betty Mae Jumper, Seminole Tribal Leader (in Library)

[Unit from Ms. Rettig](#) (still under construction, but does a great job pulling resources from a lot of the other places on this list! THANK YOU!)

From Thrively via Dr. Keeling

- K-2 : We are Water Protectors - [Go to Lesson](#)
- 3 - 5: Go Show the World- [Go to Lesson](#)

[Google Doodle](#)

- “In honor of Native American Heritage Month in the U.S., today’s interactive Doodle—illustrated by Zuni Pueblo guest artist Mallery Quetawki—celebrates Zuni (A:shiwi) Native American fiber artist, weaver, and potter the late We:wa (wee-wah). As a Łamana (thah-mah-nah), the late We:wa was a revered cultural leader and mediator within the Zuni tribe, devoting their life to the preservation of Zuni traditions and history.”

Breaking stereotypes visually

This video shows a man traveling to a Pow Wow from his regular job in the city.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTJvpfkRRdA>

Proclamations

Here is the Governor's Proclamation [2021 Proclamation](#).

Here OCS Proclamation for Indigenous Peoples’ Day

And you may also want to give the site for [National Native American Heritage Month](#) (not a proclamation, has resources).