

Native American & First Nation Creators

Board Books, Picture Books & Traditional Stories

Picture Books

Aglukark, Susan (Inuk). *Una Huna: What Is This?* (Historical Fiction). Ukpik loves living in her camp in the North with her family. When a captain from the south arrives to trade, Ukpik is excited to learn how to use the cutlery he brings with him.

Alvitre, Cindi (Gabrielino-Tongva). *Waa'aka': The Bird Who Fell in Love With the Sun*. A traditional Tongva creation story from Southern California, in which a beautiful bird falls in love with Tamet, the sun, and tries to follow him up to the sky.

Ansloos, Jeffrey (Cree). *Thunder and the Noise Storms*. When the world gets too loud and chaotic, a boy's grandfather helps him listen with wonder instead.

Barrett, Elizabeth S. and Jonathan Thunder (Red Lake Band of Ojibwe). *Mashkiki Road: The Seven Grandfather Teachings*. Three young cousins explore the woods in search of medicines that heal and purify, also gathering advice from wise beings who offer life lessons.

Boivin, Lisa (Deninu K'ue). *We Dream Medicine Dreams*. When a little girl dreams about a bear, her grandfather explains how we connect with the knowledge of our ancestors through dreams. But when Grampa gets sick, the little girl must lean on his teachings as she learns to say goodbye.

Bruchac, Joseph (Abenaki). *Wolf Cub's Song*. Cub feels lonely and sad on this dark night. Can she overcome her fear and find her voice to sing for Grandmother Moon? Also by Joseph Bruchac: *Rabbit's Snow Dance: A Traditional Iroquois Story*.

Callaghan, Jodie (Listuguj First Nation). *The Train*. Ashley meets her great-uncle by the old train tracks near their community in Nova Scotia, where he tells her of the day when he and the other children from their community were taken to residential school and their lives were changed forever. *Also available in World Languages: Micmac.

Campbell, Nicola (Interior Salish/Métis). *Stand Like a Cedar*. Children go for a walk in the woods with their elders and discover the animals of British Columbia. Also by Nicola Campbell: *A Day with Yayah, Grandpa's Girls*, and *Shi-shi-etko*.

Child, Brenda J. (Red Lake Ojibwe). *Bowwow Powwow / Bagosenjige-niimi'idim*. * At the powwow, Windy watches the dancers and listens to the singers. Later, Windy falls asleep and dreams of a bowwow powwow, where all the dancers are dogs. *Also available in World Languages: Ojibwe.

Coulson, Art (Cherokee). *Look, Grandma! Ni, Elisi!* Bo wants to find the perfect container to show off his traditional marbles for the Cherokee National Holiday. This volume of the Storytelling Math series explores volume and capacity.

Flett, Julie (Cree-Métis). *We All Play = kimêtawânaw*. Animals and children love to play! Celebrate playtime and the connection between kids and the natural world. Also by Julie Flett: *Birdsong; Lii yiiboo nayaapiwak lii swer: Owls See Clearly at Night, a Michif Alphabet*; and *Wild Berries / Pikaci-Minisa*.

Florence, Melanie (Cree). *Stolen Words = kimotinâniwîw itwêwina*. * A look at the intergenerational impact of Canada's residential school system and the beautiful, healing relationship between a little girl and her grandfather. *Also available in World Languages: Cree.

Gibbons, Janine (Haida Raven). *Raven Makes the Aleutians: Adapted From a Traditional Native Story*. After the flood, Raven falls from the sky far out to sea. How will he get back to the mainland?

Goade, Michaela (Tlingit & Haida). *Berry Song*. As a young Tlingit girl collects wild berries, she sings with her Grandmother as she learns to speak to the land and listen when the land speaks back.

González, Xelena (Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan). *Where Wonder Grows*. A grandmother explores her special garden with her granddaughters, explaining the treasures she's brought to that magical place, each with a story to tell. Also by Xelena González: *All Around Us*.

Goodluck, Laurel (Mandan Hidatsa Arikara & Tsimshian). *Forever Cousins*. Amanda and Kara are cousins and best friends in an intertribal Native American family; but Kara's family leaves the city and moves back to the Rez, making both girls sad--but the summer reunion reminds them that they will always be cousins.



Gray Smith, Monique (Cree and Lakota). *I Hope / Nipakoseyimon*. * Sweet thoughts about loving, nurturing and wishing the best for our children, while still feeling protective of them. Also by Monique Gray Smith: *When We are Kind / Nihaa'adahwiinít'jigo* ** and *You Hold Me Up / Ki Kihcêyimin Mâna*. **Also available in World Languages: *Cree and **Diné.

Greendeer, Danielle (Mashpee Wampanoag). *Keepunumuk: Weeâchumun's Thanksgiving Story*. In this Wampanoag story told in a Native tradition, two kids from the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe learn the story of Weeâchumun (corn) and the first Thanksgiving.

Suzanne Greenlaw (Maliseet). *The First Blade of Sweetgrass*. Musquon must overcome her impatience while learning to distinguish sweetgrass from other grasses, but slowly the spirit and peace of her surroundings speak to her, and she gathers sweetgrass as her ancestors have done for centuries, leaving the first blade she sees for future generations.

Havrelock, Deidre (Saddle Lake Cree). *Buffalo Wild!* Since Declan was born, his kokum has shared her love of Buffalo through stories and art. But Declan longs to see real Buffalo. Then one magical night, herds of the majestic creatures stampede down from the sky!



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Picture Books cont.

Hunt, Dallas (Wapiseewsi/Swan River First Nation). *Awâsis and the World-Famous Bannock*. Young Awâsis searches for the ingredients to make Kohkum's bannock recipe, even receiving help from some other-than-human relatives.

Jameson, Catherine (Okanagan). *Zoe and the Fawn*. Zoe and her dad see a little fawn curled up under an aspen tree and search for its mother, while learning the sylx (Okanagan) names of animals.

Kinew, Wab (Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation). *Go Show the World*. Fourteen Indigenous North Americans are featured, including athlete Jim Thorpe, doctor Susan LaFlesche Picotte, and Olympian Waneeck Horn-Miller.

King, Thomas (Cherokee). *My Lala*. LaLa wakes up one morning and decides that she owns the world. Quick as a fox, she bounds to her box of treasures and finds her shiny red dots--to mark what is hers, because there's nothing that's not!

Kusugak, Michael (Inuit). *The Most Amazing Bird*. All the birds have flown south for the winter except one kind--the tulugarguat, the ravens. They're the ugliest birds that Aggaataa has ever seen. As the seasons change in full, the ravens leave. But where Aggaataa once thought the ravens odd, she now finds herself waiting for their return.

Lajimodiere, Denise (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa). *Josie Dances*. As she prepares for her first powwow, a girl practices her dance steps, gets help from her family, and inspiration from the eagle.

Landry, Barbara and Martha Kyak (Inuit). *Nattiq and the Land of Statues: A Story From the Arctic*. A ringed seal has returned to his Arctic home after a long journey south. His friends gather round to hear about his trip.

Lindstrom, Carole (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa). *We Are Water Protectors*. 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.

Luby, Brittany (Anishinaabe-kwe). *Encounter*. Sailor sets off to explore new lands where he meets Fisher, and although they speak and dress differently, they find they have much in common.

Maillard, Kevin Noble (Seminole Nation, Mekusukey Band). *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*. The story and recipe of a post-colonial food that is a shared tradition for Native American families.

Maret, Sherri (Oklahoma Choctaw). *The Cloud Artist = Hoshonti Holbvttoaba Inchunli*. * Leona, a little Choctaw girl, is the first cloud painter to be born in generations. She likes nothing better than to use the big blue sky as a canvas to the delight of her people. *Also available in World Languages: Choctaw.

Minnema, Cheryl (Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe). *Hungry Johnny and Johnny's Pheasant*. Two stories of a young boy learning patience and wonder for the natural world from his elders.

Peacock, Thomas (Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa). *The Dancers*. A young girl learns of wisdom and triumph, of being strong, and dancing with your heart. Also by Thomas Peacock: *The Forever Sky*.

Qitsualik-Tinsley, Rachel (Inuit). *Tanna's Owl*. When Tanna's father brings home an owl, she is not eager to take care of the little bird. Also by Rachel Qitsualik-Tinsley: *The Raven and The Loon*.

Robertson, David (Norway House Cree Nation). *On the Trapline*. A boy and his grandpa take a trip to a trapline, where people hunt and live off the land. Also by David Robertson: *When We Were Alone*.

Robertson, Joanne (Anishinaabe). *The Walker Walker / Nibi emosaawdang*. * The story of a determined Ojibwe Nokomis (Grandmother) Josephine Mandamin and her great love for Nibi (Water). Nokomis walks to raise awareness of our need to protect Nibi for future generations, and for all life on the planet. *Also available in World Languages: Ojibwe.

Rodgers, Greg (Choctaw). *Chukfi Rabbit's Big Bad Bellyache: A Trickster Tale*. Chukfi Rabbit is figuring out some way to avoid work at all costs and won't help his friends.

Sainte-Marie, Buffy (Cree). *Still This Love Goes On*. A love letter to Indigenous communities everywhere, celebrating seasons, nature, and community.

Sammurtok, Nadia (Inuit). *The Owl and Two Rabbits*. When two rabbit sisters ignore their parents' warnings and decide to play outside on the open tundra, a hungry owl soon spots them.

Sorell, Traci (Cherokee Nation). *Powwow Day*. 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. Also by Traci Sorrell: *At the Mountain's Base*.

Spillet-Sumner, Tasha (Cree). *Beautiful You, Beautiful Me*. A story exploring the feelings of a mixed heritage child who begins to notice the physical differences between her mother's features and her own. Also by Tasha Spillet-Sumner: *I Sang You Down from the Stars*.

Take, Rose Ann (Navajo). *First Laugh: Welcome, Baby!* The First Laugh Ceremony is a celebration held to welcome a new member of the Navajo community by getting the baby to laugh!

Tenasco, Sunshine (Anishinaabe). *Nibi's Water Song*. When Nibi turns the tap in her house, only brown water comes out. That starts her on a search for clean water and her energy becomes a catalyst for change in her community.

Tharp-Thee, Sandy (Cherokee). *The Apple Tree*. A little boy plants an apple seed and can see the apple tree it is meant to be. But the little apple tree isn't so sure. Can the boy encourage the tree to give the seasons and years the time to work their magic?

Thomas, Penny M. (Cree-Ojibway). *Nimoshom and His Bus*. Nimoshom loved to drive the school bus. Every day, on the way to and from school, he had something to say. Sometimes, he told the kids silly stories. Sometimes, he taught them a new word or phrase in Cree.

Thomas, Rebecca (Mi'kmaq). *Swift Fox All Along*. When Swift Fox's father picks her up to go visit her family and learn how to be Mi'kmaq, she's nervous. Though her father reassures her that Mi'kmaq is who she is from her eyes to her toes, Swift Fox doesn't understand what that means.

Uluadluak, Donald (Inuit). *Kamik: An Inuit Puppy Story*. When Jake finally gets a puppy to call his own, all he can think about is the fast, strong sled dog that his puppy will become. More Kamik stories: *Kamik's First Sled* by Matilda Sulurayok (Inuit); *Kamik Joins the Pack and Kamik Takes the Lead* by Darryl Baker (Inuit).

Van Camp, Richard (Tlicho Nation). *Little You / Kiya kâ-apisîsiyan*. * This dual-language, poetic book for babies and toddlers celebrates every child and the joy babies bring into the world. Also by Richard Van Camp: *We Sang You Home / Kik-kw-hikamstaminan*. *Also available in World Languages: Cree.

Vandever, Daniel W. (Navajo). *Herizon*. Follow the journey of a young Diné girl as she helps her grandmother retrieve a flock of sheep with a magical scarf that transforms the world she knows. Also by Daniel W. Vandever: *Fall in Line, Holden*.

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Vermette, Katherena (Métis). *The Girl and the Wolf*. A young girl becomes separated from her mother in the woods. Scared and lost, she encounters a large wolf who reminds her of her own ability to survive.

Whitecrow, Darcy (Seine River First Nation Ojibwe). *Runs With the Stars = Wijibibamatoon-anangoonan*. *The inspiring story of a multigenerational family working together to bring a herd of Ojibwe Horses back home, years after they all but disappeared. *Also available in World Languages: Ojibwe.

Toddler & Board Books

Gray Smith, Monique (Cree and Lakota). *My Heart Fills With Happiness = Ni sâkaskineh mîyawâten niteh ohcih*. *A celebration of happiness and the things in life that bring joy. *Also available in World Languages: Cree.

Kalluk, Celina (Inuit). *Sweetest Kulu*. This bedtime poem describes the gifts given to a newborn baby by all the animals of the Arctic.

Robertson, Joanne (Anishinaabe). *Nibi is water = Nibi aawon nbiish*. *A first conversation about the importance of Nibi, which means water in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), and our role to thank, respect, love, and protect it. Babies and toddlers can follow Nibi as it rains and snows, splashes or rows, drips and sips. *Also available in World Languages: Ojibwe.

Sammurtok, Nadia (Inuit). *In My Anaana's Amautik*. A loving invitation into the amautik—the pouch in the back of a mother's parka used to carry a child—to experience everything through the eyes of the baby nestled inside, from the cloudlike softness of the pouch to the glistening sound of Anaana's laughter.

Van Camp, Richard (Tlicho Nation). *May We Have Enough to Share*. A book to express the author's gratitude for all that surrounds him and his family: the strength of their connections, the nature that provides for them, the love that is endless. Photo illustrations are from photographers who celebrate their own gratitude on the collective blog Tea & Bannock. Also by Richard Van Camp: *Kiss by Kiss / Ocêtôwina*.

Holiday Books

King, Thomas (Cherokee). *A Coyote Solstice Tale*. Wily trickster Coyote is having his friends over for a solstice get-together when a human girl comes by.

Robinson, Gary and Jesse T. Hummingbird (Cherokee). *Native American Night Before Christmas*. A whimsical look at what Christmas Eve might be like for an American Indian family when Old Red Shirt (the Indian Santa Claus) comes a-calling.

Sneve, Virginia Driving Hawk (Sioux). *The Christmas Coat: Memories of My Sioux Childhood*. Virginia and her brother are never allowed to pick first from the donation boxes at church because their father is the priest, and she is heartbroken when another girl gets the beautiful coat that she covets.

Traditional Stories

Gyetxw, Hetxw'ms (Brett D. Huson, Gitxsan Nation). *Mothers of Xsan* (series, multiple locations). Explore how the animals, water, soil, and seasons are all intertwined, all integral parts of the landscape to the Gitxsan people.

Jones, Dan Sasuwéh (Ponga Nation). *Living Ghosts and Mischievous Monsters: Chilling American Indian Stories* (398.2 JON). Thirty-two short ghost stories from Native cultures across North America, featuring witches, walking dolls, hungry skeletons, skinwalkers, and other supernatural beings.

Ortiz, Simon J. (Acoma Pueblo). *The Good Rainbow Road: Rawa 'kashtyaa'tsi hiyaani* (398.2 ORT). Two boys are sent by their people to visit the Shiwana, the spirits of rain and snow, and bring back rain to relieve a drought. Also by Simon J. Ortiz: *The People Shall Continue* (970.004 ORT).

Pellissier-Lush, Julie (Mi'kmaq). *Mi'kmaq Campfire Stories of Prince Edward Island* (398.2 PEL). The Mi'kmaq people have been here since the ice began to melt over this great land. They learned the medicines in nature to keep them healthy and they hunted the animals of the land and fished the waters of the sea. When the cold winds started to blow, they would go off in their own little family units to survive the winter. At night, by the campfire under the stars, those families would tell stories, stories about who they were, where they came from, and all the lessons they needed to learn about life. Those stories passed on traditions, songs, language and the culture of the Mi'kmaq people.

World Languages Books

Cree
Gauthier, Clayton (Cree/Dakelh). *The Bear's Medicine = Sus yoo*. A mother bear shares with her cubs how to be grateful for all they have in the natural world.

Highway, Tomson (Cree). *Dragonfly Kites*. Brothers Joe and Cody love watching dragonflies soar into the summer sky and racing after as they fly through the trees.

Nicholson, Caitlin Dale and Leona Morin-Neilson (Cree). *Nipêhon / I Wait and Niwîchîhâw / I Help*. Stories of Cree children learning about nature by watching and helping their grandparents gather plants.

Inuktitut
Sammurtok, Nadia (Inuit). *Nanuup anikuluralaanga / Nanuq's Baby Brother*. Nanuq is so excited when she finds out she is going to be a big sister! But when her baby brother is born, he cries all the time. Her parents are so busy with the baby, they don't have time for her anymore. Is this really what being a big sister is like? Also by Nadia Sammurtok: *Kisunik Ataata aaqkiksijunnaqpa? = What Can Ataata Fix?*

Teevee, Ningeokuluk (Inuit). *Aliquq / Alego*. The experiences of a young child as she and her grandmother go for a walk along the shore to gather clams for supper.

Vuriisan, Arnakuluk (Inuit). *Kisimi taimaippaktut angirrarijarani / Only in My Hometown*. The northern lights shine, women gather together, and everyone could be family in this small town.

Micmac
Syliboy, Alan (Mi'kmaq). *Kaqtukowa'tekete'w / Thundermaker*. Little Thunder learns the importance of responsibility as his father teaches him the role of Thundermaker.

Ojibwe
Armstrong, Juliana (Ojibwe). *This Is What I've Been Told = Mii yi gaa-bi-wiindmaagooyang* (971.3 ARM). It's been said when teachings are passed down from one generation to the next, good things can happen. Language is learned, knowledge is shared, and culture is practiced. In this story of language preservation, Anishnaabemowin language teacher Juliana Armstrong illuminates a number of Anishnaabemowin words along with their cultural connections.

Luby, Brittany (Anishinaabe-kwe). *Mii maanda ezhi-gkendmaanh / This is How I Know*. A child and grandmother explore their surroundings, taking pleasure in the familiar sights that each new season brings.