

NOVEMBER IS

# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
**Office of Education**

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## ELEMENTARY LEVEL

# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Use these materials to begin a conversation with elementary grade students about Native American heritage and the impact that Native Americans have had on American society and culture.

## GUIDING QUESTION

How have the customs and traditions of Native Americans helped shape American culture?



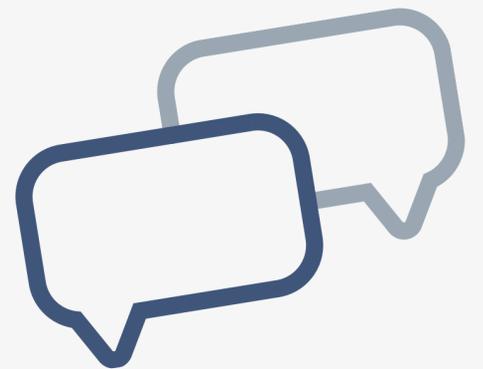
## EXPLORE

- Watch the **True Story of Sacajawea** from TED-ED  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ld6gUuK4S-s>
- Listen to **Native American musicians** perform for Tiny Desk Concerts Playlist for npr music  
<https://www.npr.org/2021/11/12/1053543653/tiny-desk-playlist-celebrating-native-american-heritage-month>
- Learn about seven Native American Tribes with these TK-5 Grade lessons from **Brentwood Union School District** as part of their **Community Celebration Lessons Program**  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/18h3k3gOFnDWJ95WobaQRnIQJOZcKcbqP\\_NuuVoCn\\_W8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/18h3k3gOFnDWJ95WobaQRnIQJOZcKcbqP_NuuVoCn_W8/edit)
- Explore **Native American Heritage Month Resources** from National Gallery of Art, Library of congress, National Endowment for the Humanities and other partner agencies.  
<https://www.nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/index.html>



## EXPLAIN

- What are some examples of Native American history, culture, and traditions that you learned about as you explored the resources above?
- What questions might you ask a Native American to learn more about their culture and traditions? (*Social Justice Standard D.1.3-5.8*)



## ENGAGE FURTHER

- **Connect with Native American cuisine** with the First Nations Development Institute  
<https://www.firstnations.org/knowledge-center/recipes>
- **Pick a book** from First Nations Development Institute's Recommended Reading List  
[https://www.firstnations.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Revised\\_Book\\_Insert\\_Web\\_Version\\_March\\_2018.pdf](https://www.firstnations.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Revised_Book_Insert_Web_Version_March_2018.pdf)



## SECONDARY LEVEL

# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Use these materials to begin a conversation with secondary grade students about Native American heritage and the impact that Native Americans have had on American society and culture.

## ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How have Native Americans contributed to the economic, political, and social development of California and the Nation?



## EXPLORE

- Take a virtual field trip to the **Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian**  
<https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/national-museum-of-the-american-indian>
- Learn about the **Native American Code Talkers** from the National Air and Space Museum  
<https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/native-american-code-talkers/FwLCAYZ9wwV7Jw>
- Listen to **Native American musicians** perform for Tiny Desk Concerts Playlist for npr music  
<https://www.npr.org/2021/11/12/1053543653/tiny-desk-playlist-celebrating-native-american-heritage-month>
- Listen to a **TED Talk** about the modern Native American experience  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/ron\\_muqsahkwat\\_corn\\_jr\\_native\\_american\\_culture\\_language\\_the\\_key\\_to\\_every\\_thing?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/ron_muqsahkwat_corn_jr_native_american_culture_language_the_key_to_every_thing?language=en)
- Explore **Native American Heritage Month Resources** from National Gallery of Art, Library of congress, National Endowment for the Humanities and other partner agencies.  
<https://www.nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/index.html>



## EXPLAIN

- Based on the resources above, share what you have learned about Native American heritage and the impact that Native American have had on our state and country.
- As you explored the resources, what aspects of Native American heritage and the lived experiences of contemporary Native Americans are you newly curious about? (*Social Justice Standard D.I. 9-12.8*)



## ENGAGE FURTHER

- **Connect with Native American cuisine** with the First Nations Development Institute  
<https://www.firstnations.org/knowledge-center/recipes>
- **Pick a book** from the First Nations Development Institute's Recommended Reading List  
[https://www.firstnations.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Revised\\_Book\\_Insert\\_Web\\_Version\\_March\\_2018.pdf](https://www.firstnations.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Revised_Book_Insert_Web_Version_March_2018.pdf)

