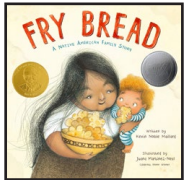




Monroe County
Public Library
Read, Learn, Connect & Create

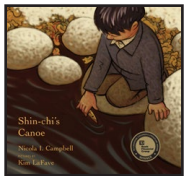
Celebrate Indigenous Voices

Picture Books



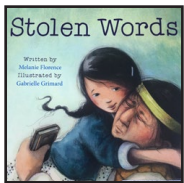
Fry Bread:
A Native American Family Story
by Kevin Noble Maillard
(Juvenile Picture Books – Ej Mai)

As children help a Native American grandmother make fry bread, the book delves into the history, social ways, food ways, and politics of America's 573 recognized Native American tribes. Recommended for ages 3–6.



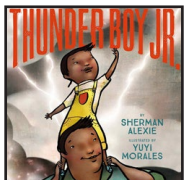
Shin-chi's Canoe
by Nicola I. Campbell
(Juvenile Picture Books – Ej Cam)

Forced to use only their English names and not speak to their siblings at school, Shinchi holds fast to the tiny canoe given to him by his father and looks forward to the day when the salmon return to the river, hopeful that things will then improve for his family and the nation he loves. Recommended for ages 6–9.



Stolen Words
by Melanie Florence
(Juvenile Picture Books – Ej Flo)

A little girl sets out to help her grandfather discover the Cree language that was stolen from him when he was sent away to residential school as a boy. Recommended for ages 6–9.



Thunder Boy Jr.
by Sherman Alexie
(Juvenile Picture Books – Ej Ale)

Little Thunder wants a name that separates him from his father, Big Thunder, and considers such options as "Touch the Sky" and "Drums, Drums, and More Drums" before his father helps him find the perfect alternative. Recommended for ages 3–6.



We Are Water Protectors
by Carole Lindstrom
(Juvenile Picture Books – Ej Lin)

Inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America, the book issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption. Recommended for ages 6–9.



When We Were Alone
by David Robertson
(Juvenile Picture Books – Ej Rob)

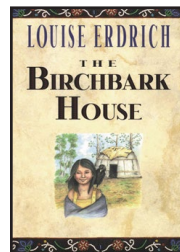
Helping her grandmother tend her garden, a young girl asks her First Nations forebear why she wears bright colors and has long hair, so her grandmother tells her about her youth in a residential school where all of these things were taken away. Suggested for ages 6–9.



Wild Berries = Pikaci-Minisa by Julie Flett
(Juvenile Picture Books – Ej Fle)

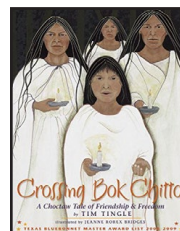
Clarence, a young Cree Native American, and his grandmother pick blueberries together as they sing, look out for the animals, and enjoy sampling the fruit. Recommended for ages 3–6.

Juvenile Fiction



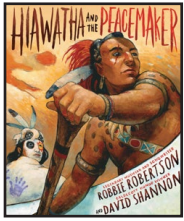
The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich
(Juvenile Fiction – J Erdrich)
Series: Birchbark House, Book 1

Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847. Recommended for ages 9–12.



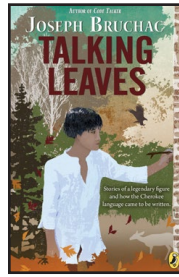
Crossing Bok Chitto: A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom
by Tim Tingle
(Juvenile Fiction – J Tingle)

In the 1800s, a Choctaw girl becomes friends with a slave boy from a plantation across the great river, and when she learns that his family is in trouble, she helps them cross to freedom. Recommended for ages 6–9.



Hiawatha and the Peacemaker
by Robbie Robertson
(Juvenile Fiction – J Roberts)

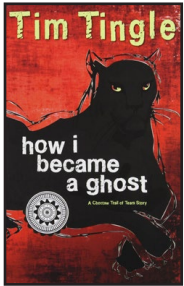
Hiawatha, a Mohawk, is plotting revenge for the murder of his family by the evil Onondaga Chief, Tadodaho, when he meets the Great Peacemaker, who enlists his help in bringing the nations together to share his vision of a new way of life marked by peace, love, and unity rather than war, hate, and fear. Recommended for ages 9–12.



Talking Leaves
by Joseph Bruchac
(Juvenile Fiction – J Bruchac)

Thirteen-year-old Uwohali is worried by his father’s obsession with making markings that cause people to suspect him of witchcraft, in a reimagining of the creation of the Cherokee alphabet. Recommended for ages 9–12.

Juvenile Nonfiction



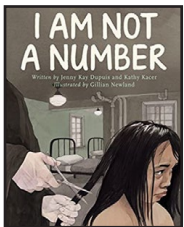
How I Became a Ghost:
A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story
by Tim Tingle
(Juvenile Fiction – J Tingle)
Series: How I Became a Ghost, Book 1

A Choctaw boy tells the story of his people’s removal from the only land they had ever known, and how their journey to Oklahoma led him to become a ghost—one with the ability to help those he left behind. Recommended for ages 9–12.



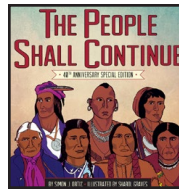
Bowwow Powwow by Brenda J. Child
(Juvenile Nonfiction – J 497.333 Chi)

This playful story is accompanied by a companion retelling in Ojibwe and brought to life by vibrant dreamscapes. The result is a powwow tale for the ages. Recommended for ages 3–6.



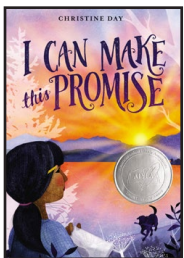
I Am Not a Number
by Jenny Kay Dupuis
(Juvenile Fiction – J Dupuis)

A young First Nations girl is sent away to a residential school and is determined not to forget who she is and where she came from. Recommended for ages 9–12.



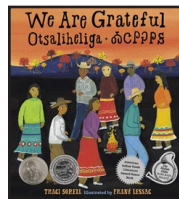
The People Shall Continue
by Simon J. Ortiz
(Juvenile Nonfiction – J 970.0049 Ort)

This powerful story by a renowned Acoma Pueblo poet and storyteller traces the history of Indigenous Peoples of North America from the time of creation to the present. Recommended for ages 9–12.



I Can Make This Promise
by Christine Day
(Juvenile Fiction – J Day)

In a story based on the author’s real-life experiences, a girl uncovers a secret that connects her to her Native American heritage, throwing everything she believes about her family into question. Recommended for ages 9–12.



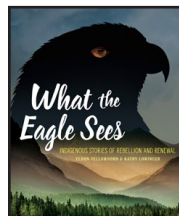
We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga
by Traci Sorell
(Juvenile Nonfiction – J 970.3 Cherokee Sor)

Otsaliheliga is a Cherokee word that is used to express gratitude. Journey through the year with a Cherokee family and their tribal nation as they express thanks for celebrations big and small. Recommended for ages 6–9.



Race to the Sun
by Rebecca Roanhorse
(Juvenile Fiction – J Roanhor)

Guided by her Navajo ancestors, seventh-grader Nizhoni Begay discovers she is descended from a holy woman and destined to become a monsterslayer, starting with the evil businessman who kidnapped her father. Includes a glossary of Navajo terms. Recommended for ages 9–12.



What the Eagle Sees: Indigenous Stories of Rebellion and Renewal
by Eldon Yellowhorn
(Juvenile Nonfiction – J 970.0049 Yel)

What do people do when their civilization is invaded? Indigenous people have been faced with disease, war, broken promises, and forced assimilation. Despite crushing losses and insurmountable challenges, they formed new nations from the remnants of old ones, they adopted new ideas and built on them, they fought back, and they kept their cultures alive. Recommended for ages 9–12+.