

Suggested Books for Indian Education for All in Early Childhood

This list is a sample of some of the books available to support implementation of Indian Education in the Pre-K – 1 classroom, though most titles are also appropriate for older grades. With a selection of literature that supports various Montana Content Standards and teaching objectives, Indian Education For All can be integrated throughout the year and applied to the following Montana State Content Standards:

World Languages- 4, 6, 8 Social Studies- 3, 4, 6 Arts- 5 Media Literacy- 4
Reading- all, especially 4, 5 Literature- all, especially 4

Additional content integration possibilities listed below each entry.

Most titles selected and/or modified from a bibliography by Dorothea Susag.

*Titles with asterisks correlate with *Model Teaching Units for Language Arts* available in school libraries or online at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>



Ahenakew, Freda. *Wisahkecahk Flies to the Moon. (Cree)* Illustrated by Sherry Farrell Racette (Timiskaming First Nation). Winnipeg, MB: Pemmican Publications, 1999. ISBN: 0-921827-57-1

Picture Book - Grades K and up

Essential Understandings #1, #3

Summary: Again Wisahkecahk desires something beyond his capability – to travel to the moon, from which he can see all the stars and planets. He’s grateful to the crane who has brought him to this wonderful place, but he suffers consequences when the moon shrinks and he can no longer hold on. Falling from the sky to earth, he lands in a soft spot and is covered with mud. He curses the waste land that’s no use to anyone and calls it “muskeg.”

Science- Earth, moon, stars, soil. Pair with *Just a Walk*.

* Arlee, Johnny (Salish). *The Gift of the Bitterroot: A Salish and Pend d'Orielle Story*. Illustrated by Antoine Sandoval. Pablo, MT: Salish Kootenai College, Npustin Press, 2008. ISBN: 978-0-9816834-1-6

Picture Book - Grades K and up

Essential Understandings #1, #3

Summary: A great famine ended when the bitterroot flower grew from the heartbroken tears of a woman who cried for her starving people. The return of the bitterroot is still greeted and blessed each year. The work of digging, cleaning, cooking and caring for the bitterroot is described beautifully in the last pages.

Model Teaching Unit V2: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

Science- seasons; plants. Social Studies-needs and wants; responsibility; community; time, continuity and change

Arlee, Johnny (Salish). *Mali Npnaqs: The Story of a Mean Little Old Lady*. illustrated by T. J. Sandoval. Pablo, MT: Salish Kootenai College Press, 2003.

Picture Book - Grades K and up

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3, #6

Summary: A grumbling old woman is dissatisfied with her life until her door, her cooking her chair, and her chimney become annoyed after much mistreatment. Through their trickery, she learns her lesson. The story is written in both Salish and English, Pronunciation Guide for the Special Salish Language Sounds on the back. CD of Salish reading also available.

Social Studies- responsibility. World Languages- cultural perspectives; language patterns. Pair with *Red Parka Mary*.



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Bad Heart Bull, Kayo (**Lakota**), **Thathánka na Wáta/The Buffalo and the Boat**. Illustrated by Frantisek Valer. Bloomington, IN: Lakota Language Consortium, 2004.

Picture Book - Grades K and up
Essential Understandings #1, #3

Summary: A buffalo travels in his boat, and along the way picks up a yellow butterfly, a brown goose, a blue cat, a black dog, and a red bird. The final passenger, a buckskin horse, proves too much for the vessel. Bilingual Lakota-English.

Math: Counting; addition.

World Languages- cultural perspectives; language patterns.

Bouchard, David (**Métis**). **Nokum is My Teacher**. Paintings by Allen Sapp (**Cree Elder**) and singing and drumming by Northern Cree drum group. Calgary, Alberta, Canada: Red Deer Press, 2006. ISBN: 0-88995-367-8 (Bilingual Cree-English audio recording also)

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3, #5

Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: This book is not "illustrated." It is art, and the paintings vividly amazing. Two voices appear on each page of text in both English and Cree: a child who doesn't want to go to school, who finds life "confusing," and who looks to his grandmother—Nokum—for answers to so many questions; and the grandmother who persists in getting the child to answer the questions for himself. Ultimately, he realizes that she is right and that he should learn to read. "I now have come to see a need. I'll use it as we use our songs/ And hope it serves us just as long." Grandmother replies: "I'm waiting, child, to lend a hand/When I know that you need me/ For now your Nokum is content/ To watch you learn to see." Sapp's paintings portray "First nations community life" and "capture reverence for both the land and those who live on it."

Social Studies- family; responsibility. World Languages- cultural perspectives; language patterns.

Literature- poetry.

Boyden, Linda. **Powwow's Coming**. Illustrated by the author. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2007. ISBN: 978-0-8263-4265-2

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3

Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: "Powwow's coming, hear the beat? / Powwow's coming, dancing feet./ Powwow's coming, hear the drum?/ Powwow's coming, everyone!" Through contemporary image and sound in language children can't help but love, this book provides a powerful contradiction to the age-old misconceptions and stereotypes of Indians.

Social Studies- community; economics. Literature- poetry.

Bruchac, Joseph. (**Abenaki/Slavic**). **Many Nations: an Alphabet of Native America** BridgeWater Paperback, 1998. ISBN: 0-8167-4460-2

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3, #6

Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: Illustrated by Robert F. Goetzl, *Many Nations* teaches the alphabet while it depicts the diversity and beauty of Native American cultures and communities. Each page begins with a different Native American culture, or an animal or experience important to Native people: *Anishinabe, Blackfeet, Choctaw, Dakota...Eagle, Fox...Tuscarora, Umpqua, Visions...*"X marking the four directions," and finally *Zuni*. The illustration takes up most of each page, and the text is a series of parallel noun phrases: "Otoe fathers teaching sons how to walk with care. Penobscot mothers singing little ones to sleep."

Social Studies- cultural diversity; geographic knowledge. Reading- alphabet.



Bruchac, Joseph. (Abenaki/Slavic). *The First Strawberries*. New York: Penguin Books, 1993. ISBN 0-8037-1331-2

Essential Understandings #1, #3
Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: This is a Cherokee story, retold by Abenaki storyteller Joseph Bruchac, with water color illustrations by Anna Vojtech. The story begins the way so many legends begin: "Long ago..." It is a story of a couple who married and lived happily for a long time until one day they quarreled because the husband's words hurt his wife, and she left, saying "I will live with you no longer." Her husband feels sorry and follows her, but he can't catch up to her. She doesn't stop to pick the first gifts of the Sun: raspberries, blueberries, blackberries. But when she sees the strawberries in the warmth of the Sun, she remembers her happiness with her husband and stops to pick the berries for him. Her husband approaches her and says, "Forgive me for my hard words," and she shares the berries with him. "So it was that strawberries came into the world." The story teaches about the importance of respect for others and about gifts of the earth.

Social Studies- oral tradition; conflict & cooperation; time, continuity & change.

Bruchac, Joseph and James Bruchac(Abenaki) as told by the Bruchacs. *How Chipmunk Got his Stripes*. Pictures by Jose Aruego and Ariane Dewey. New York: Puffin Books, 2001. ISBN: 0-14-250021-6

Essential Understandings #1, #3
Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: Children will enjoy illustrations and the dialogue between an arrogant and bragging Bear and the little Chipmunk who challenges the Bear to stop the sun from coming up. When the sun rises the next morning, of course the Bear is grumpy. Because he won, the chipmunk teases him, even though his grandmother tells him it's not good to tease the loser in a contest. Bear pounces on Chipmunk and threatens to eat him, and then he lets him go just so he can hear him apologize. Once released Chipmunk runs. When he's about to enter his burrow, the bear scratches his back. The storyteller ends his book with the lesson: "no one, not even Bear, can do everything." But there are other valuable lessons in this story that come alive in our memories whenever we see a chipmunk running.

Social Studies- conflict & cooperation.

Bruchac, Joseph and James Bruchac (Abenaki) as told by the Bruchacs. *Turtle's Race with Beaver: A Traditional Seneca Story*. Pictures by Jose Aruego and Ariane Dewey. New York: Penguin Young Readers Group, Dial Books, 2003. ISBN 0-8037-2852-2

Essential Understandings #1, #3
Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: A story about the contest over territory and who owns it: Turtle (the weaker but wiser one) has happily lived there for years, but Beaver comes along and decides to make some changes. Although Turtle is willing to share the pond, Beaver wants it for himself, so he challenges Turtle to a race. All the animals gather to watch the swimming race across the pond. As soon as Beaver takes off, Turtle snaps onto Beaver's tail. When Beaver flips his tail to shake him off, Turtle lets go just at the highest point in the air and is catapulted onto land, the winner. Although Turtle invites him to share his pond, Beaver is embarrassed and goes to find another pond where another turtle lives. There Beaver demonstrates the lesson he has just learned and humbly asks, "May I share your pond with you?" While readers might see that this story illustrates the importance of ingenuity in achieving success, it probably is more about the value of cooperation and living at peace with all.

Social Studies- conflict & cooperation. Science- habitat



Campbell, Nicola (**Interior Salish/Metis**). *Shi-shi-etko*. Illustrated by Kim LaFave. Berkeley, CA: Groundwood Books, 2005. ISBN: 0-88899-659-4

Essential Understandings #2, #5, #6
Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: *Shi-shi-etko* or “she loves to play in the water” has four days to spend with her family before a cattle truck will take her and other children far away from home. First she bathes in the creek with her mother who tells her that they will not see each other “until the wild roses bloom in the spring and the salmon have returned to our river. I want you to remember the ways of our people.” The last image in the book is the truck taking the children away, but Shi-shi-etko will survive because she has “memorized” the landscape of home. Growing up native in British Columbia’s Nicola Valley, the author writes in prose poetry the hundred-year-long story of most native children in Canada: the leaving of family and home to attend Indian Residential (Boarding) School sometimes hundreds of miles away from home. “. . . generally between the ages of five and six,” children were sent away to “learn European culture and religion. Parents were put in jail if they didn’t send their children to these schools. Can you imagine a community without children? Can you imagine children without parents?” writes Campbell in her introduction.

Social Studies- power, authority & governance; role of self in family. Science- plants. Math- measurement of time.

*Cuthand, Ruth (**Cree**). *The Little Duck - Sikihipsis*. Cree translation by Stan Cuthand. Illustrated by Mary Longman (**Saulteaux**). Penticton, British Columbia: Theytus Books, Ltd., 2003. ISBN: 1-894778-10-3

Essential Understandings: #1, #3
Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: Written in both Cree and English, tells the story of a lonely mud duck who admires the Cree people and their happy way of life. Although he tries to fit in by dressing himself as a dancer, he finds it difficult to communicate because he can only speak in “duck quacking sounds,” and he doesn’t understand Cree. A kind old woman points an invitation for him to join the dance, but the men and women accidentally step on him. “Bruised and battered, the little duck waddled broken hearted, back to the swamp.” When he is most sad, he hears many mud ducks overhead, “calling, glorious wonderful mud duck words . . .” He realizes then that he’ll never be lonely again. *The Little Duck* reminds us of “The Ugly Duckling” story as it poses questions about language, culture, identity, self worth and belonging. Model Teaching Unit V1: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

World Languages- cultural perspectives & practices; celebrations; language patterns. Social Studies- belonging.

Dawavendewa, Gerald (**Hopi-Cherokee**). *The Butterfly Dance*. New York: Abbeville Press, 2001. ISBN: 0-7892-161-5

Essential Understandings: #1, #3
Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: “A young Hopi girl names Sihumana, or Flower Maiden, is getting ready to perform her first Butterfly Dance. . . . Even though she has practiced very hard for weeks, Sihumana is feeling nervous as she puts on the beautiful headdress her partner has made for her.” The story concludes with an explanation of The Butterfly Dance, a Glossary, The Hopi.

World Languages- cultural perspectives & practices; celebrations; language patterns. Social Studies- cultural diversity.



Edwardson, Debby Dahl. **(Inupiaq). *Whale Snow***. Illustrated by Annie Patterson. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2004.

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3, #5
Picture Book – Grades K and up

Summary: The culture and tradition of bowhead whaling in northern Alaska are portrayed in this story of Amiqqaq's connection to a tradition through family and community.

Social Studies- belonging; cultural diversity; needs & wants; time, continuity & change, geographic knowledge. **World Languages-** cultural perspectives & practices; celebrations; language patterns.

*Einarson, Earl (**Ktunaxa First Nation**). ***The Moccasins***. Illustrated by Julie Flett (**Cree/ Métis**). British Columbia Arts Council: Theytus Books, 2005. ISBN:1-89477814-6

Essential Understandings: #1, #3
Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: A story about unconditional love, *The Moccasins* begins in a child's foster home, where he feels secure. His foster mother gives him a pair of beaded moccasins that he wears until they are too small for him. When he grows up, he gives them to his own child. "When I give [my child] the moccasins, I will tell him how safe and loved I felt. I will tell him how proud I am to be Native."

Model Teaching Unit V1: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

Social Studies- belonging, role of self in family. **Pair with *Where Did You Get Your Moccasins?***

*Eyvindson, Peter. ***Red Parka Mary***. Illustrated by Rbrian Brynjolson. Winnipeg, Manitoba: Pemmican Publications, Inc., 1996. ISBN: 978-9-921827-50-4

Essential Understandings #2
Picture Book - K and up

Summary: A little boy is afraid of an old woman he meets on the way to school. But his fears disappear as the two become friends. She teaches him "how to snare a rabbit, how to skin it, how to thread a needle, how to make leather soft and supple, and finally how to line [his own] homemade moccasins with rabbit fur." It's a great book to pair with *Where Did You Get Your Moccasins* by Bernelda Wheeler. Use with *Mali Npnaqs* to open discussions about interacting with elders.

Model Teaching Unit V1: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

Social Studies- conflict & cooperation; responsibility; needs and wants.

*Harjo, Joy. (**Muskogee Creek**) ***The Good Luck Cat***. Illustrated by Paul Lee. New York Harcourt, Inc., 2000. ISBN: 0-15-232197-7

Essential Understandings #2
Picture Book - K and up

Summary: Few relationships are as sacred and close as children and their pets, whether it's a horse or a snake, a dog or a hamster, a chicken or a sheep, a pig or a cat. Providing security and unqualified loyalty, children grieve whenever their pets are injured or lost, often suffering grief that equals the loss of another human being. *The Good Luck Cat* is the story of a pet, who survives to live beyond the designated life-span of nine, for cats. The narrator herself nearly causes Woogie to lose her "eighth life" when she wants to take the cat to a powwow. Disobeying her parents, she packs the cat in the trunk of the car– in the summer. Finally, after disappearing for four nights, the narrator sings Woogie's "favorite song" and asks "her to come home," and the narrator sees her cat running towards her in a dream. The next morning Woogie, a little the worse for wear, is found sleeping by her empty feed dish, the meat loaf all gone. Told in a child's voice, the pages sound alive in words, phrases and images.

Model Teaching Unit V1: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

Social Studies- responsibility.



Heath, Kristina (**Mohican/Menominee**). **Mama's Little One**. Color illustrations. Gresham WI: Muh-he-con-neew Press, 1998. ISBN: 0-935790-05-5

Essential Understandings #1, #3

Picture Book - K & up

The Mohican traditional way of instructing young ones is illustrated in this simple book. A mother teaches her child to behave in ways that will please the "Great, Good Spirit," emphasizing values such as helpfulness, honesty, and industriousness.

Social Studies- belonging, role of self in family; needs and wants.

Jaakola, Lyz (**Lake Superior Chippewa**). **Our Journey**. Illustrated by Karen Savage-Blue. University of Minnesota Duluth: Minnesota: Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, 2001 and 2004. ISBN: 0-9709443-0-6.

Essential Understandings #1, #3

Picture Book – Board book

Summary: *Anin* (Hello) and *Miigwech* (Thanks) to the four directions, the earth, family, and to the Sun. Repetition and full-color paintings make this a winner for children of all ages.

Social Studies- geographic knowledge (directions).

Lawson, Cheri (**Salish**). **Chip the Buffalo**. Luminary Media Group, and imprint of Pine Orchard, Inc., 2006 www.pineorchard.com ISBN: 1-93050-61-4

Essential Understandings #2, #6

Picture Book - Grades K and up

Summary: Based on a true story, with stunning photographs by Tammy Beerntsen and painted illustrations of a meadowlark and killdeer, a buffalo, bluebird and eagle by J. Lawson, *Chip the Buffalo* shows how the Lawson family raised an orphaned buffalo calf on their buffalo ranch on the Flathead. Even the youngest children will be drawn to the photographs and the very realistic and fun dialog, as well as the details about the care and development of buffalo.

Social Studies- geographic knowledge (land use). Science- animals (habitat, life cycle).

Medicine Crow, Joe (**Crow**). **Brave Wolf and the Thunderbird**. Illustrated by Linda R. Martin (**Navajo**). New York: Abbeville Press Publishers. ISBN:0-7892-0160-7

Essential Understandings #1, #3

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: "Every spring a great big monster climbs out of the lake and up the cliff to steal the mother Thunderbird's young chicks. This year she is determined to save them, but she needs human help. So she snatches up Brave Wolf while he is out hunting and carries him to her nest, where he comes up with a plan. When the water monster arrives to attack the nest this year, he is greeted by more than just chicks at the top of the cliff." The end of the book includes an explanation of the thunderbird in the Crow culture, a Glossary of Crow Words, and some history and photographs of the Crow people.

World Languages- cultural perspectives; language patterns.

Nicholson, Caitlin Dale with Leona Morin-Neilson (**Cree**). **Niwечиhasw I Help**. Berkeley, CA: Groundwood Books House of Anansi Press, 2008. ISBN-13: 978-0-88899-812-5

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: This beautiful book very simply portrays the relationship between a boy and his Kokum as they pick berries together. Each page has a simple sentence in both English and Cree.

World Languages- cultural perspectives; language patterns. Social Studies- responsibility; belonging, role of self in family.



Sanderson, Esther (**Pas Reserve Cree**). *Two Pairs of Shoes*. Illustrated by David Beyer (**German-Canadian/Cree**). Winnipeg, Manitoba: Pemmican Publications, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-921827-15-3

Essential Understanding #2

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: Dedicated to the author's children, and "all other children who walk in two pairs of shoes," this is a contemporary story of Maggie. For her birthday, her mother gives her a new pair of black leather dress shoes. Overjoyed, she takes off her moccasins and runs to show her *Kokom* her new shoes. There her blind grandmother gives her another package with a pair of beaded moccasins she has made herself, the most beautiful pair Maggie has ever seen. Her grandmother hugs her and tells her to "remember when and how to wear each pair." Of course, this story is about much more than shoes.

Social Studies- cultural diversity, role of self in family.

*Smith, Cynthia Leitich. (**Muscogee Creek**) *Jingle Dancer*. Illustrated by Cornelius Van Wright and Ying-Hwa Hu. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 2000. ISBN 0-688-16241-X

Essential Understanding #2, #3

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: "Jenna, a member of the Muscogee Nation and also of Ojibway descent, is a child centered in the powwow tradition. She has watched her Grandma Wolfe jingle dance, and daily she dreams of dancing herself. This story demonstrates the circle of love that surrounds Jenna and the way the child completes the circle by dancing for "Great-aunt Sis, whose legs ached ...for Mrs. Scott, who sold fry bread,...for Elizabeth, who worked on her big case,...and for Grandma Wolfe, who warmed like Sun." The book concludes with an Author's Note about the Creek nation, the importance of traditional story, and an explanation of the place of celebration, the jingle dress dance, and more.

Model Teaching Unit V1: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

Social Studies- cultural diversity; role of self in family; time, continuity & change.

World Languages- cultural perspectives & practices; celebrations.

Math- counting, addition and subtraction.

Sockabasin, Allen (**Passamaquoddy**). *Thanks to the Animals*. Illustrated by Rebekah Raye Gardiner, Maine: Tilbury House, Publishers, 2005. ISBN: 978-0-88448-270-3

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3

Picture Book – K and up

Summary: Zoo Sap and his family move from their coastal home in Maine to the woods for the winter on a sled pulled by horses and loaded with all their goods and the cedar logs they'd used for a house. In the night as they travel, Zoo Sap slips from the sled and no one notices he's missing. A baby alone in the snowy wilderness, one animal after another comes to encircle him and give him warmth. His father travels back with a small sled through the night and finally comes to a great "mound of snow" with a bald eagle on top. Zoo Sap thanks each one and that night they feast and celebrate the return of the lost son. On the last page, the author provides a list of Passamaquoddy animal names spelled phonetically.

World Languages- cultural perspectives; language patterns.

*Spang, Bently (**Northern Cheyenne**). *The War Shirt*. Illustrated by Troy Anderson (**Cherokee**). Barrington, IL: Rigby, division of Reed Elsevier Inc., 1999. ISBN: 0-7635-5697-1

Essential Understandings #1, #2, #3

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: For one summer, Troy, an artistic Cheyenne boy whose parents live and work in a city far from the Cheyenne Reservation, returns to the reservation where he stays with his grandparents so he can "learn the ways of his people." His grandpa teaches him about hunting, tanning and coloring deer hides,



and his grandmother teaches him how to bead, all in combination with lessons in respect and traditional values. Before he leaves to return home, they ask him use his own art to create something that shows them what he has learned. In secret he takes photographs of them and their art and creates a “war shirt” in the manner of a patchwork quilt to honor them for all they have taught him. The story is about the ways contemporary Cheyenne people keep traditions alive, but it also provides a strong contradiction to the popular belief that the “old ways” are gone.

Model Teaching Unit V2: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

Social Studies- cultural diversity; role of self in family; time, continuity & change.
World Languages- cultural perspectives.

Taken Alive, Delores (**Lakota**), **Pispíza wan Wayáwa Iyáye/Prairie Dog Goes to School**. Illustrated by Frantisek Valer. Bloomington, IN: Lakota Language Consortium, 2004.

Picture Book - K and up

Essential Understandings #1, #3

Summary: On the way to school, a prairie dog encounters other animal classmate including skunk, turtle, beaver, grasshopper, owl, porcupine, deer, chipmunk and at last, a bear (the teacher), who counts and names all the students. Bilingual Lakota-English.

Math: Counting; addition. World Languages- cultural perspectives; language patterns

Te Ata. (**Chickasaw**) **Baby Rattlesnake**. Adapted by Lynn Moroney and Illustrated by Mira Reisberg. San Francisco, CA: Children’s Press, 1989. ISBN:0-89239-111-1

Picture Book - K and up

Essential Understandings #3

Summary: Lynn Moroney, and Oklahoma storyteller, received permission to tell and publish this story from ninety-two-year old Chickasaw, Te Ata, who has been telling stories across the country and in Europe for sixty-five years. *Baby Rattlesnake* is a story that teaches a lesson—the consequences of getting “something before you’re ready for it.” Like the Prodigal Son, even after he has rejected the advice of his parents, he is welcomed home in the end. It is a story about the impulsiveness of youth, the wisdom of elders, the value of forgiveness, and the importance of learning lessons for ourselves.

Social Studies- cultural diversity; role of self in family; conflict & cooperation.
World Languages- cultural perspectives.

Van Camp, Richard. (**Dogrib Nation from Canadian Northwest Territories**) **Welcome Song for Baby: A Lullaby for Newborns**. Victoria, BC: Orca Book Publishers, 2007. ISBN: 978-1-55143-661-6

Essential Understandings #2

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: “Dear one, Cherished one, Loved one, You have made the world beautiful again.” And each page in this beautiful board book is illustrated with photographs of babies from all ethnic backgrounds.

Social Studies- cultural diversity; role of self in family.

Wheeler, Bernelda (**Cree/Saulteaux**). **Where Did You Get Your Moccasins?** Illustrated by Herman Bekkering. Winnipeg, Manitoba: Peguis Publishers, 1992.
ISBN: 1-895411-50-5

Essential Understandings #2, #6

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: At school, one of Jody’s friends asks him where he got the moccasins he is carrying. When he says his Kookum or grandmother made them, more classmates from various racial backgrounds gather to ask more questions. Through the curiosity of his friends, the involvement of his teacher in the



questioning, and his willingness to share the story of the moccasins, one final surprise is revealed. A cumulative story, great for teaching sequence of events.

Model Teaching Unit V2: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/IndianEd/curricsearch.html>

Social Studies- cultural diversity; role of self in family; time, continuity & change.

Wheeler, Bernelda (Cree/Saulteaux). *A Friend Called 'Chum'*. Illustrated by Andy Stout. Winnipeg, Manitoba: Pemmican Publications Inc., 1984. ISBN: 0-919143-13-X May be out of print; used

Picture Book - K and up

Essential Understandings #2, #3

Summary: *A Friend Called 'Chum'* is the story of a little girl who mistreats her dog and ignores her cats when she has a bad morning and nearly misses the school bus. Through a dream where her “small dog, chum,” saves her life, Marji May learns to appreciate him.

Social Studies- cultural diversity; role of self in family; conflict & cooperation.

Wheeler, Bernelda (Cree/Saulteaux). *I Can't Have Bannock but the Beaver Has a Dam?* Illustrated by Herman Bekkering. Winnipeg, Manitoba: Portage and Main Press, Pemmican Publications, Inc., 1993. ISBN: 978-1-55379-002-0

Essential Understandings #1, #2

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: When a little boy asks for bannock, his mother tells him he can't have it because the oven won't get hot. Through a series of questions, and more follow-up questions, and wonderful repetition of ideas and sound, the boy learns how one thing leads to another: if this happens, then this occurs. “The beaver needed the tree to make a dam, so, the beaver chewed the tree. The big tree fell and knocked the power lines down. Without the powerlines, the electricity is off. Without the electricity, the oven won't get hot. And I can't make bannock,” says his mother. At the end of the story, he gets his bannock, and readers can find a recipe for making bannock. A cumulative story, great for teaching sequence of events.

Social Studies- cultural diversity; role of self in family; time, continuity & change.

Science- technological contributions.

Wheeler, Jordan (Cree). *Just a Walk*. Illustrated by Bill Cohen (Okanagan). Penticton, BC: Theytus Books, 1993. ISBN: 0-919441-46-7

Essential Understandings #2

Picture Book - K and up

Summary: One day Chuck decides to take a walk and loses all track of time. His imagination takes him flying with a hawk, falling in a river, riding with a fish, floating on a cloud – and more. Eventually he returns home to a very worried mother because he's been gone all day. He responds, “I'm okay, Mom. I just went for a walk.” The story is told twice in rhyming couplets, with the second time without color and a blank for the second rhyming word – just so children can tell and illustrate the story themselves.

Science- living & non-living; Earth's features. Social Studies- family, responsibility.

