Using the Culture Kit

Welcome to the amazing world of the Native Americans of the Woodlands Culture Kit. This box introduces a world of history, traditions, and amazing people who continue to pass down these practices today. When navigating through this kit be aware that you are the vessel of knowledge in which your students will learn about this culture. While this cultural group has a long history, it is important to teach your students that this culture thrives in modern times and communities. Culture really does not exist in a box. It constantly transforms based on the materials you have access to and the people you interact with. Like with all communities there may be many challenges that people, represented in the kit, continue to face. It is important to teach our students what a community is and how that relates to individual identity within a community. Take some time to carefully read/look through the Culture Kit. You may adapt the information, artifacts, and teaching tools to best fit your teaching style. Below is a list of vocabulary, essential questions, and suggested reading to help best deliver this cultural information.

Begin your journey through the Culture Kit with the Main Information Packet. At the bottom of each page is a sticker that matches the topic with corresponding artifacts, books, and lesson plans. When teaching about a specific topic, refer to the matching stickered artifacts to help students make connections.

Key:

- Lesson
- Book
- Artifact
Culture is: A way of living and being in the world that are designs for acting, believing, and valuing. Culture includes language, religion, gender, relationships, disability, sexual orientation, family structures, nationality, rural/urban/suburban communities.


Community- Local/ Global-Interconnectedness

- Interest- Communities of people who share the same interest or passion (A community for people participating in same activity). Example- visual and performance arts, Indigenous.
- Action- Communities of people trying to bring about change. (A community with a goal to use, collective power to make change in the world). For example: Environmentalists, Social Justice etc.
- Place- Communities of people brought together across geographic boundaries. Building global relationships-interconnectedness. Building relationships by supporting each other during challenging times. Example- migration/Immigration, war conflicts.
- Practice- Communities or families of people brought together to undertake the same activities. For example, New year’s, birthdays and other family gatherings.

Connecting with Identity

Identity-condition or character as to who a person or what a thing is; the qualities, beliefs, etc., that distinguish or identify a person or thing.

- Skin Color
- Intersectionality (gender, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, education, nationality)
- Family History- beliefs, values, artifacts

Diversity within a Culture

Native Americans of the Woodlands

- Shelters, Arts, Ceremonies, Food, Clothing, Pan-tribal
- Indigenous tribes within region
- Ethnic diversity- Blood quantum for tribal enrollment
**Suggested Reading**


# Standards

**Anti-Bias Framework-Diversity Standards**

- Identity 1-6
- Diversity 6-10
- Justice 11-15
- Action 16-20

**Common Core English Language Arts Standards Grades K-5**


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## Theme/Big Idea

**Everyone Has a Story to Tell**

The more we learn about ourselves the better we can understand and appreciate the differences in others. Exploring intercultural literature, with a focus on critical thinking, helps to foster awareness of self, others, and the world.

## Essential Questions

- How can we better understand others, the world, and ourselves?
- How can self reflection lead to self-awareness?
- How can analyzing literature help foster awareness of self, others, and the world?
- How is understanding self, others and the world interrelated?

[http://curriculum.tusd1.org/Parent-Student-Resources](http://curriculum.tusd1.org/Parent-Student-Resources)

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## Content Connections

- Social Studies
- Language Arts
- Visual Arts
- Music
- Dance
- Science
- Multicultural
- Current Events
- Human Rights
- Global Perspectives
- Health/Nutrition
- Career Readiness