



# Hofstra University

## Joan & Donald E. Axinn Library

CURRICULUM MATERIALS CENTER



## Native American Heritage Month Bibliography

### Introduction

For too long, the voices of people of color were excluded from both history textbooks as well as from the great body of children's and young adult literature. This is particularly true of American Indians who, if depicted at all, were represented in unflattering, stereotypical terms. In recent years, textbooks have tried to be more balanced in their approach and children's literature has become increasingly multicultural - so much so, that many books address the lives of Americans of many different backgrounds. While there are still not that many books for young people that depict contemporary Native Americans, there are a few and, in addition, there are many beautifully illustrated American Indian folk tales or legends. Moreover, there are a number of historical novels that portray events in American history from the Indian point of view and, in so doing, dispel some of the negativity of the past. Since November is American Indian Heritage Month, the Curriculum Materials Center has mounted a display of children's and young adult books related to Native Americans. Below is a select bibliography.

### Fiction (picture book)

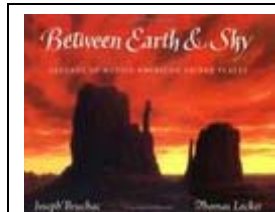


Bania, Michael. ***Kumak's Fish: A Tall Tale from the Far North.***

Portland, Oregon: Alaska Northwest Books, 2004.

PZ7 .B2145 E

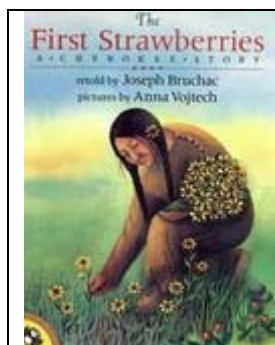
On a beautiful Arctic morning when Kumak and his family go ice fishing, Kumak hooks what seems like an enormous fish, and the entire village gets involved.



Bruchac, Joseph. ***Between Earth & Sky.*** San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1966.

E98 .F6B8

Through the guidance of his uncle and the retelling of various Native American legends, a young boy learns that everything living and inanimate has its place, should be considered sacred, and given respect.



-----, retold by. ***The First Strawberries: A Cherokee Story.***

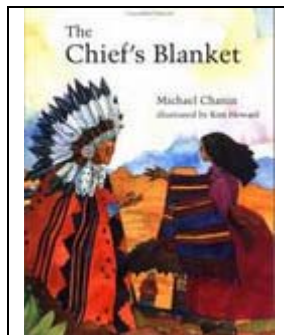
New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1993. (North America-Cherokee)

E99 .C5B885 P-I

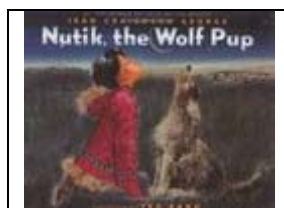
A quarrel between the first man and the first woman is reconciled when the Sun causes strawberries to grow out of the earth.



----- **Fox Song.** New York: Philomel Books, 1993.  
PZ7 .B82816 P-I  
After the death of her Indian great-grandmother, Jamie remembers the many special things the old woman shared with her about the natural world.



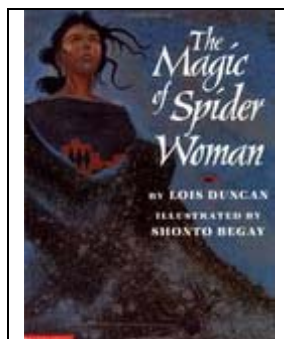
Chanin, Michael. **The Chief's Blanket.** Tiburon, California: H.J.Kramer Starseed Press, 1997.  
PZ7 .C35969 E  
In the process of weaving her first Chief's Blanket, Flower After the Rain discovers the meaning of giving and receiving.



Craighead-George, Jean. **Nutik, the Wolf Pup.** New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2001.  
PZ7 .G2933 E  
When his older sister Julie brings home two small wolf pups, amaroq takes care of the one called Nutik and grows to love it, even though Julie tells him it cannot stay.



De Coteau Orié. **Did You Hear Wind Sing Your Name?** New York: Walker Publishing, 1995.  
PZ7 .D3585 E  
Pictures and words pay homage to the Oneida Indians' view of the cycle of spring.



Duncan, Lois. **The Magic of Spider Woman.** New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1996.  
E99 .N3D75 P-I  
Retells the Navajo tale of how a stubborn girl learns from the Spider Woman how to keep life in balance by respecting its boundaries.



Edwardson, Debby Dahl. **Whale Snow.** Watertown, Massachusetts: Talewinds, 2004.  
PZ7 .E2657 E  
At the first whaling feast of the season, a young Inupiat boy learns about the importance of the bowhead whale to his people and their culture. Includes facts about the Inupiat and the bowhead whale.

IMAGE NOT AVAILABLE

Greene, Ellin. ***The Legend of the Cranberry: A Paleo-Indian Tale.*** New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1993. (North America)

E99 .D2G74 P-I

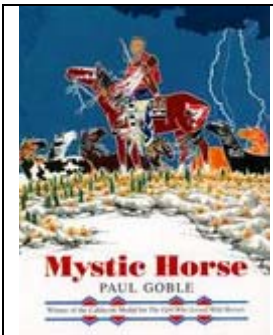
Retells the Indian legend in which the Great Spirit gave the world the cranberry to remind people of their great battle with the mastodons and woolly mammoths.

IMAGE NOT AVAILABLE

Gobel, Paul. ***Adopted by the Eagles.*** New York: Bradbury Press, 1994.

E99 .D1G557 I

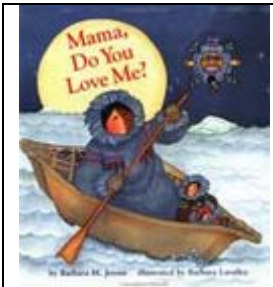
Two friends go out hunting for horses--but only one returns—in this story based in the Lakota Indian tradition.



----- ***Mystic Horse.*** Harper Collins Publishers, 2003.

PZ8.1 .G63 I-JH

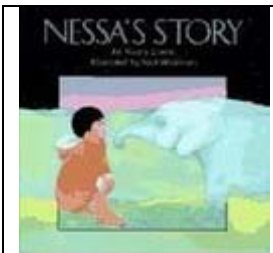
After caring for an old abandoned horse, a poor young Pawnee boy is rewarded by the horse's mystic powers.



Joose, Barbara M. ***Mama, Do You Love Me?*** San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1991. (Arctic Region)

PZ7 .J7435 E

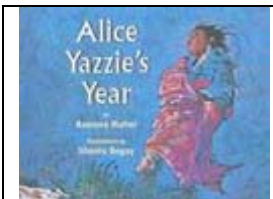
A child living in the Arctic learns that a mother's love is unconditional.



Luenn, Nancy. ***Nessa's Story.*** New York: Atheneum, 1994 (Eskimo)

PZ7 .L9766 E

A young Inuit girl, who wishes she had something to contribute when the adults tell their stories in the gathering place, encounters the story of a lifetime when she finds a giant egg one day and is able to see what it hatches.



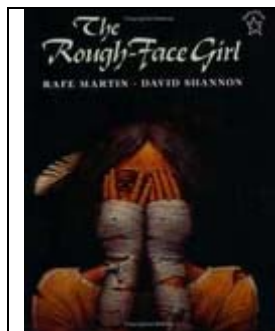
Maher, Ramona. ***Alice Yazzie's Year.*** Berkeley, California: Tricycle Press, 2003.

PZ7 .M2764 I-JH

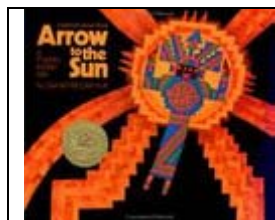
Describes each month of a year in the life of an eleven-year-old Navajo girl, Alice Yazzie, from January, Yas Nilt'ees, to December, Nilch'itsoh.



Martin, Bill Jr. and John Archambault. ***Knots on a Counting Rope***. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1987. (North America)  
PZ7 .M3643 E  
A grandfather and his blind grandson, Boy-Strength-of-Blue horses, reminisce about the young boy's birth, his first horse, and an exciting horse race.



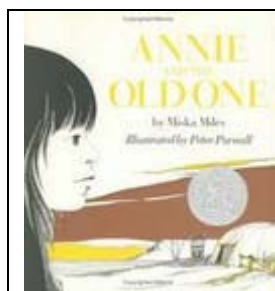
Martin, Rafe. ***The Rough-Face Girl***. New York: G.P Putnam's Sons, 1992. (North America-Algonquin)  
E99 .A349M37 P-I  
In this Algonquin Indian version of the Cinderella story, the Rough-Face Girl and her two beautiful but heartless sisters compete for the affections of the Invisible Being.



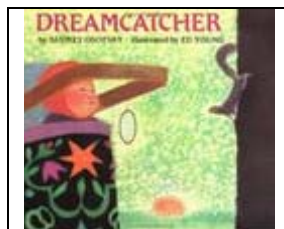
McDermott, Gerald. ***Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale***. New York: Viking Press, 1974. (North America-Southwest-Pueblo)  
E99 .P9M25 P-I  
An adaptation of the Pueblo Indian myth which explains how the spirit of the Lord of the Sun was brought to the world of men.



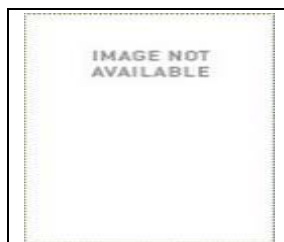
McDonald, Megan. ***Tundra Mouse: A Storyknife Tale***. New York: Orchard Books, 1997.  
PZ7 .M478419 E  
Using a traditional technique called storyknifing, two Yupik Eskimo sisters share a story about the mice that made a nest out of tinsel from the Christmas tree.



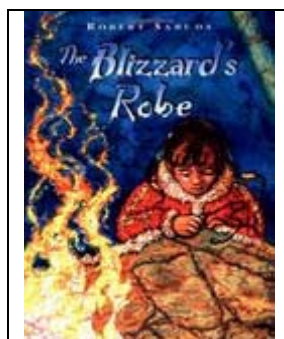
Miles, Miska. ***Annie and the Old One***. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1971. (North America-Southwest)  
PZ7 .M5944 I  
A Navajo girl unravels a day's weaving on a rug whose completion, she believes, will mean the death of her grandmother.



Osofsky, Audrey. ***Dreamcatcher***. New York : Orchard Books, 1992.  
(North America-Ojibua)  
PZ7 .O8347 E-I  
In the land of the Ojibway a baby sleeps, protected from bad dreams, as the life of the tribe goes on around him.



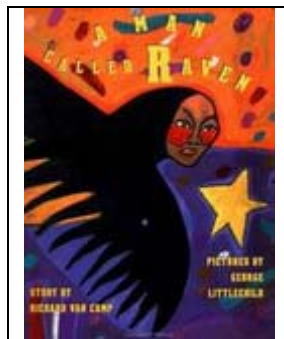
Rodanas, Kristina, adapted and illus. by. ***The Eagle's Song: A tale from the Pacific Northwest***. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1995.  
E78 .N78R59  
While trying to find his brothers, Ermine encounters an Eagle-man and his ancient mother who help him teach the people living on the coast of the Pacific Northwest how to overcome their isolation and experience the joy of life.



Sabuda, Robert. ***The Blizzards Robe***. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1999.  
PZ7 .S1178 E (Arctic People)  
A young girl living in a village in the cold, dark Arctic north makes a robe for the feared Blizzard, and as a reward he creates the Northern Lights.



San Souci, Robert D., retold by. ***Sootface: An Ojibwa Cinderella Story***. 1994. (North America)  
E99 .C6S32 I  
An Ojibwa Cinderella story. Although she is mocked and mistreated by her two older sisters, an Indian maiden wins a mighty invisible warrior for her husband with her kind and honest heart.

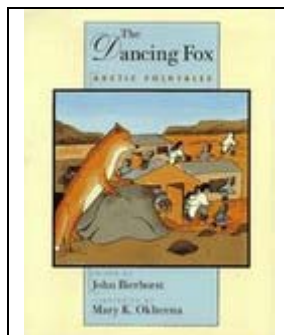


Van Camp, Richard. ***A Man Called Raven***. San Francisco: Children's Book Press, 1997.  
PZ7 .V26247 P-I  
A mysterious man tells two Indian brothers why they must not hurt the ravens that pester them.

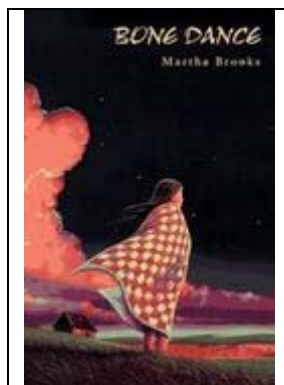


Winslow, Barbara. ***Dance on a Sealskin***. Anchorage, Alaska: Alaska Northwest Books, 1995.  
PZ7 .W72995 P-I  
In honor of her grandmother, who passed away, Annie does her first dance at potlatch in her Yupik Eskimo village. Based on a Yupik Eskimo tradition.

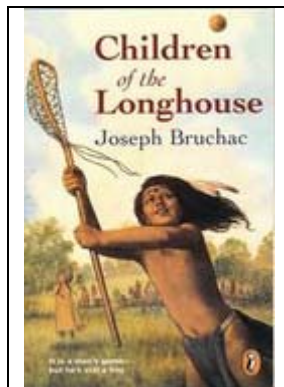
**FICTION (novels and chapter books)**



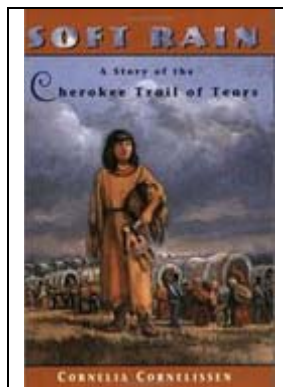
Bierhorst, John, ed.by. ***The Dancing Fox: Arctic Folktales***. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1997.  
E99 .E7D33 I  
A description of Inuit culture accompanies a collection of eighteen Inuit folktales from an ancient oral tradition in which animals could take human form and in which magic usually had a part.



Brooks, Martha. ***Bone Dance***. New York: Orchard Books, 1997.  
PZ7 .B7975 JH-HS  
When her father wills her a cabin on land in rural Manitoba, Alexandra meets a young man who shares her Indian heritage and her experience of being haunted by spirits.



Bruchac, Joseph. ***Children of the Longhouse***. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1996.  
PZ7 .B82816 I  
Eleven-year-old Ohkwa'ri and his twin sister must make peace with a hostile gang of older boys in their Mohawk village during the late 1400s.



Cornelissen, Cornelia. ***Soft Rain: A Story of the Cherokee Trail of Tears***. New York: Delacourt Press, 1998.

PZ7 .C816345 I

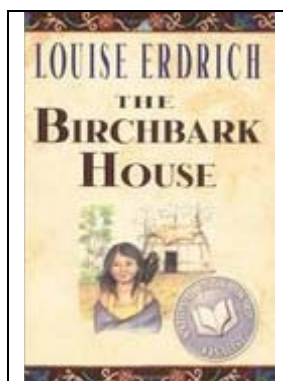
Soft Rain, a nine-year-old Cherokee girl, is forced to relocate, along with her family, from North Carolina to the West.



Dorris, Michael. ***Sees Behind Trees***. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 1996.

PZ7 .D7287 I-JH

A Native American boy with a special gift to "see" beyond his poor eyesight journeys with an old warrior to a land of mystery and beauty.



Erdrich, Louise. ***The Birchbark House***. New York: Hyperion Books for Young Children, 1999.

PZ7 .E72554 JH-HS

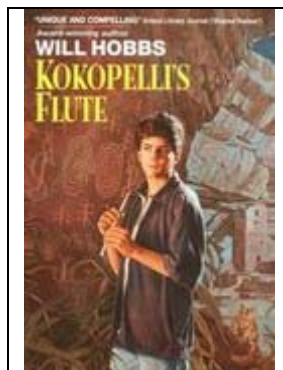
Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.



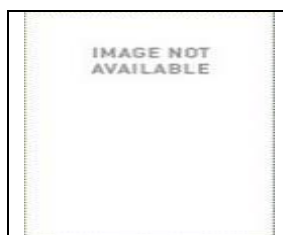
George, Jean Craighead. ***Julie***. New York: Harper Collins, 1994.

(Eskimo) PZ7 .G2933 I-JH

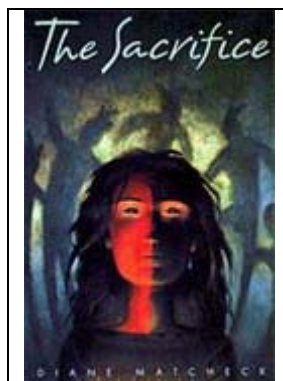
While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.



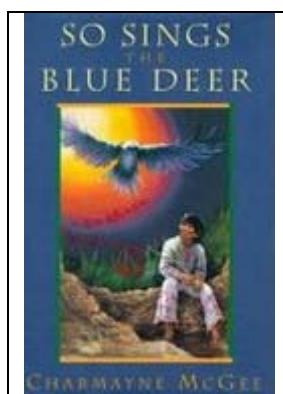
Hobbs, Will. ***Kokopelli's Flute***. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1995.  
PZ7 .H6524 I-JH  
Thirteen-year-old Tepary discovers an old flute in a cliff dwelling in New Mexico, and through its power he learns about ancient Native American magic.



Lapaca, Michael, retold and illustrated by. ***Antelope Woman: An Apache Folktale***. Flagstaff, Arizona: Northland Publishing, 1992.  
E99 .A6L32 P-I  
A beautiful Apache maiden follows the mysterious young man who has come to teach her people to respect "all things great and small" and becomes his wife.

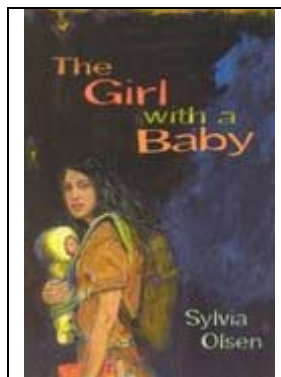


Matcheck, Dianne. ***The Sacrifice***. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1998.  
PZ7 .M423967 I-JH  
When her father's death leaves her orphaned and an outcast among her Apsaalooka (Crow) people, a fifteen-year-old sets out to avenge his death and prove that she, not her dead twin brother, is destined to be the Great One



McGee, Charmayne. ***So Sings the Blue Deer***. New York: Atheneum, 1994. PZ7 .M4784625 JH-HS  
Thirteen-year-old Moon Feather is chosen to join a dangerous pilgrimage to Mexico City to pick up live white-tailed deer, to be used to reestablish the natural population on Huichol land in the mountains





Olsen, Sylvia. ***The Girl With a Baby***. Winlaw, British Columbia: SonoNis Press, 2003.  
PZ7 .O51775 I-JH

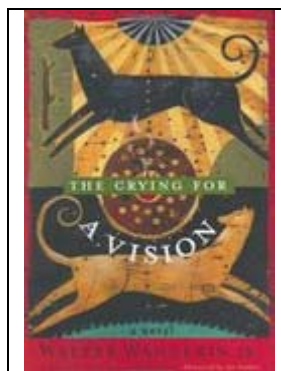
Jane has always been the good Williams. Her brothers might be high school dropouts and late-night rowdy partiers, but never Jane. Now she's one of those: the teenage mothers packing diaper bags with their knapsacks, wheeling strollers into the high school daycare, tired and grumpy.



Strete, Craig Kee. ***The World in Grandfather's Hands***. New York: Clarion Books, 1995.

PZ7 .S9164 I-JH

Eleven-year-old Jimmy is upset when he and his mother must move from the pueblo to the city after his father's death, but his grandfather's patient philosophy of life helps Jimmy slowly adjust.

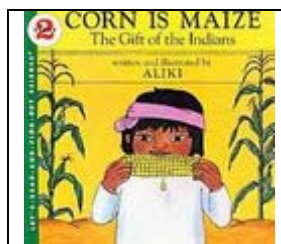


Wangerin, Walter, Jr. ***The Crying for a Vision***. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994. (North America-Dakota)

PZ7 .W1814 HS

Waskn Mani, "Moves Walking," the son of a Lakota woman and one of the stars in the sky, is torn between his devotion to the mystical world and his destiny of confronting the powerful one-eyed warrior Fire Thunder.

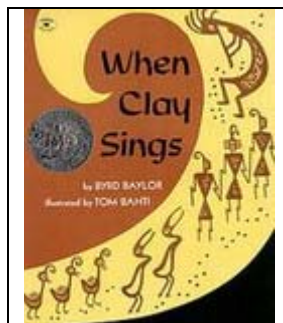
## NON-FICTION



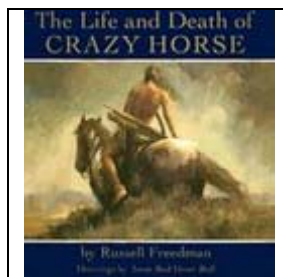
Aliki. ***Corn is Maize: The Gift of the Indians***. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1976. (North America)

SB191 .M2A584 E 3

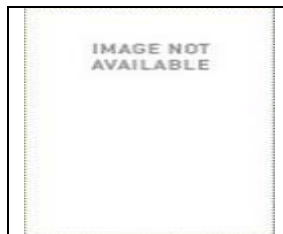
A simple description of how corn was discovered and used by the Indians and how it came to be an important food throughout the world.



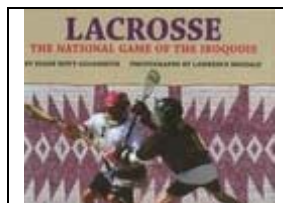
Baylor, Byrd. **When Clay Sings**. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1972. (North America-Southwest)  
E78 .S7 B36 E 6  
The daily life and customs of prehistoric southwest Indian tribes are retraced from the designs on the remains of their pottery.



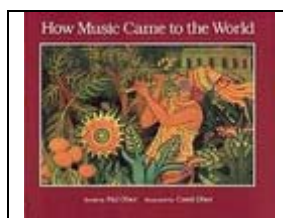
Freedman, Russell. **The Life and Death of Crazy Horse**. New York: Holiday House, Inc., 1996.  
CT275 Crazy Horse JH-HS  
A biography of the Oglala leader who relentlessly resisted the white man's attempt to take over Indian lands.



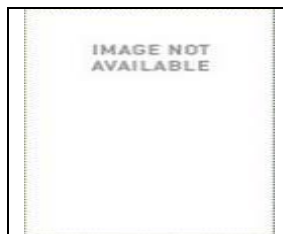
Hirschfelder, Arlene B. and Beverly R. Singer. Selected by. **Rising Voices: Writings of Young Native Americans**. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1992. (North America)  
PS508 .I5R57 JH-SH  
A collection of poems and essays in which young Native Americans speak of their identity, their families and communities, rituals, and the harsh realities of their lives.



Hoyt-Goldsmith, Diane. **Lacrosse: The National Game of the Iroquois**. New York: Holiday House, 1998.  
GV989 .H69 I-JH  
Describes the sport of lacrosse, its origins, and connections to the Iroquois, or Haudenosaunee, peoples.



Ober, Hal, retold by. **How Music Came to the World**. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1994. (Mexico-Aztec)  
F1219.76 .F65O24 P-I  
Retells a Mexican legend in which the sky god and the wind god bring music from Sun's house to the Earth.

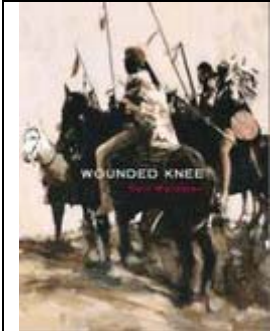


Raymer, Dottie. **Welcome to Kaya's world 1764 Growing Up in a Native American Homeland**. Pleasant Co., 2003.  
E99 .N5R39 I-JH  
Photographs, illustrations, and anecdotes, both factual and fictional, describe a Nez Perce girl's experiences growing up in the mid-eighteenth century.

IMAGE NOT  
AVAILABLE

Rumford, James. ***Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing***. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2004.  
CT275 Sequoyah I-JH

While walking through a forest of sequoias, a father tells his family the story of the tree's namesake. Sequoyah was a Cherokee man who invented a system of writing for his people. His neighbors feared the symbols he wrote and burned down his home. All of his work was lost, but, still determined, he tried another approach. The Cherokee people finally accepted the written language after Sequoyah taught his six-year-old daughter to read.



Waldman, Neil. ***Wounded Knee***. New York Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2001.  
E83.89 .W35 I-JH

Recounts the events leading to the massacre at Wounded Knee, concluding with a description of the battle itself.

IMAGE NOT  
AVAILABLE

Wood, Ted. ***A Boy Becomes a Man at Wounded Knee***. New York: Walker & Co., 1992.  
E99 .D1W93 P-I

Describes the events that led to the massacre of Lakota (Sioux) Indians at Wounded Knee in 1890 and the experiences of a young boy as he rides with his people to commemorate this event one hundred years later.

\*The annotations in the above bibliography (with several exceptions) were taken from the note field within the catalog record.