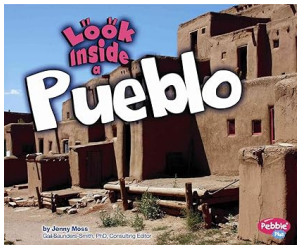
National Native American Heritage Month

Resources for Dobbs Ferry Teachers, Staff, and Families

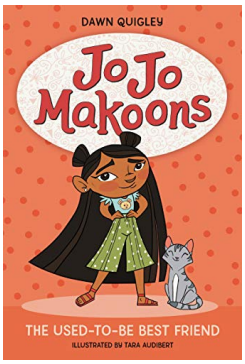
Indigenous peoples are not only a vital part of our past, but also of our present and future. The narratives we share in this list are part of a growing movement in publishing to better represent marginalized voices. Check out some of the new and classic Indigenous titles at the Springhurst, Dobbs Ferry Middle & High School, and Dobbs Ferry Public Libraries to celebrate National Native American Heritage Month in November!

Elementary School



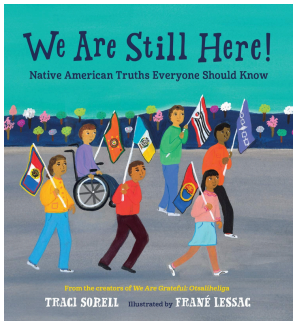
Look Inside a Pueblo
by Jenny Moss
The Pueblo Indians built villages of stone or adobe with doors in the roofs. Look inside a pueblo to learn more about the life of Native Americans in the southwestern United States.

Available at the Springhurst Library.



JoJo Makoons series
by Dawn Quigley
This early chapter book series follows Jo Jo Makoons Azure, a seven-year-old Ojibwe girl, as she navigates friendship, school, sports, and more on the fictional Pem-bina Ojibwe Reservation, where she lives with her mother and grandmother. Take a look at this educators' guide from the publisher!

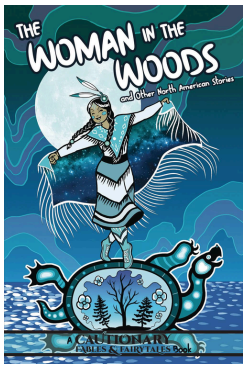
Available at the Springhurst Library and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.



We Are Still Here! Native American Truths Everyone Should Know
by Traci Sorrell
Twelve Native American kids present historical and contemporary laws, policies, struggles, and victories in Native life, each with a powerful refrain: We are still here! Take a look at this educators' guide from the publisher!

Available at the Springhurst Library and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.

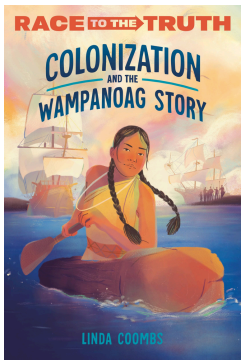
Middle School



The Woman in the Woods and Other Native American Stories
edited by Kate Ashwin, Kel McDonald, and Alina Pete

Loup Garrou, trickster rabbits, and spirits with names that can't be spoken -- the plains and forests of North America are alive with characters like these, all waiting to meet you in this collection of folklore retold in comics! This graphic novel anthology contains updated retellings of ancient folklore stories from First Nations around the continent, including Chickasaw, Odawa, Navajo, and Cree.

Available at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.



Race to the Truth: Colonization and the Wampanoag Story
by Linda Coombs

From its "discovery" by Europeans to the first Thanksgiving, the story of America's earliest days has been carefully misrepresented. Told from the perspective of the New England Indigenous Nations that these outsiders found when they arrived, this is the true story of how America as we know it today began. Take a look at this educators' guide from the publisher!

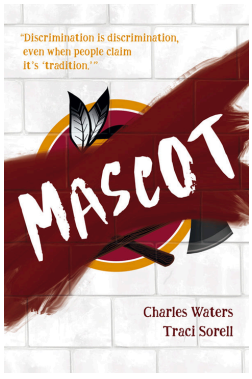
Available at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.



Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids
edited by Cynthia Leitich Smith

Sixteen short stories and two poems that look at the hope, joy, resilience, the strength of community, and Native American pride. Take a look at this educators' guide from the publisher!

Available at the Springhurst Library, DF MS/HS Library, and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.



Mascot
by Charles Waters and Traci Sorrell

Six eighth graders outside Washington, DC, navigate through conflict and division focused on their school district's Native American mascot. Novel in verse. Watch this book review by Colby Sharp!

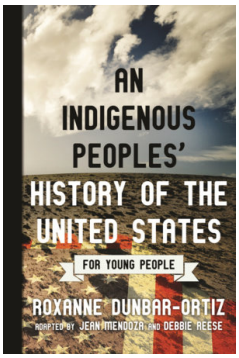
Available at the DF MS/HS Library and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.

High School



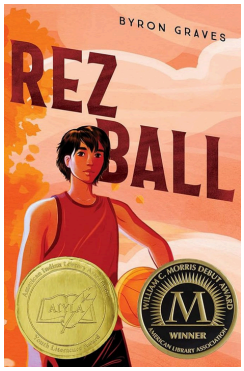
Looking for Smoke
by K.A. Cobell
When local girl Loren includes Mara in a traditional Blackfeet Giveaway to honor Loren's missing sister, Mara thinks she'll finally make some friends on the Blackfeet reservation. Instead, a girl from the Giveaway, Samantha White Tail, is found murdered. Despite deep mistrust, the four members of the Giveaway group who were the last to see Samantha alive must now take matters into their own hands and clear their names. Take a look at this educators' guide from the author's website!

Available at DF MS/HS Library and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.



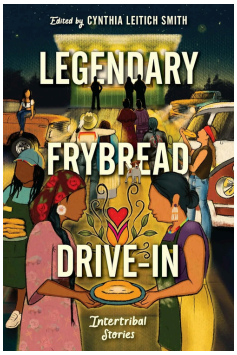
An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People
By Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, adapted by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese
A history of the United States for young people told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples, revealing how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the U.S. empire.
Take a look at this educators' guide from the publisher!

Available at the DF MS/HS and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.



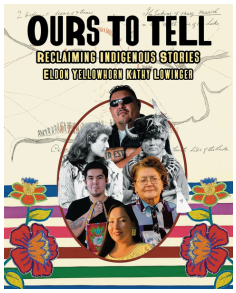
Rez Ball
by Byron Graves
When Tre Brun's deceased brother's former teammates offer to take him under their wing, Tre sees this as his shot to represent his Ojibwe rez all the way to their first basketball state championship. But stepping into his brother's shoes as a star player means that Tre can't mess up. Not on the court, not at school, and not with his new friend, gamer Khiana, who he is definitely not falling in love with. Watch the author discuss his book!

Available at the DF MS/HS Library and the Westchester Library System.



Legendary Frybread Drive-In: Intertribal Stories
edited by Cynthia Leitich Smith
Featuring the voices of both new and acclaimed Indigenous writers and edited by bestselling Muscogee author Cynthia Leitich Smith, this collection of interconnected stories serves up laughter, love, Native pride, and the world's best frybread. Take a look at this educators' guide from the publisher!

Available at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.



Ours to Tell: Reclaiming Indigenous Stories
by Eldon Yellowhorn and Kathy Lowinger

Sixteen Indigenous creators relate traditions, accounts of historical events, and their own lived experiences. Novelists, poets, graphic artists, historians, craftspeople, and mapmakers chronicle stories on the struggles and triumphs lived by Indigenous people, and the impact these stories have had on their culture and history.

Available at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.

A Note on Thanksgiving

November is also the month of Thanksgiving, a holiday whose history is often popularly misrepresented. Depictions of the "first Thanksgiving" and of peaceful collaboration between the Wampanoag in Massachusetts and the colonists in Plymouth, Massachusetts, are often inaccurate. Below is a list of resources that you can use to start exploring and evaluating children's literature about Thanksgiving for yourself.

- American Indians in Children's Literature blog: Run by Dr. Debbie Reese of Nambé Pueblo, this blog contains many posts about Thanksgiving as well as reviews of other books about Native Americans.
- "Thinking About Thanksgiving" blog post from Reading While White blog: This post interrogates the history of Thanksgiving and its representation in children's books. The blog overall is a resource dedicated to promoting anti-racism in children's literature and librarianship.
- Rethinking Thanksgiving Educators' Guide from the Berkeley (CA) Union-Free School District: This list of multimedia sources on Indigenous history includes articles, podcasts, and more for every age group.

This resource list was compiled as part of a partnership between the Dobbs Ferry Schools (Springhurst Library Media Specialist Beth Cornell, Middle/High School Library Media Specialist Ellen Elsen, and K-8 Literacy Coordinator Michelle Yang-Kaczmarek) and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library (Children's Librarian Gina Elbert, and Young Adult Librarian Alex Yeranossian).

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