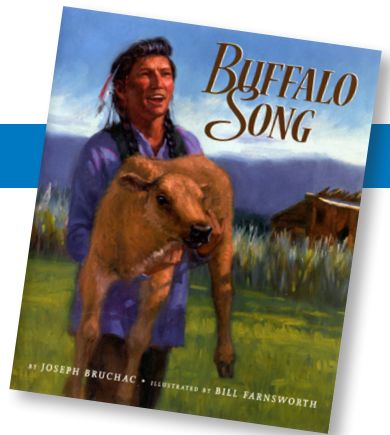


# Buffalo Song

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS



**Themes:** Ecology, Nature, Conservation, American Indian Culture

**Book Brief:** By the late 1800s, American buffalo were nearly extinct. This book tells the story of how one man and his family worked to save the buffalo.

**Author:**  
Joseph Bruchac

**Illustrator:**  
Bill Farnsworth



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** What does it mean when an animal is *extinct*? Can the children think of any animals that are extinct? Explain that buffalo once lived all across North America. After white settlers came, buffalo were hunted until they were almost all gone.

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### COMMUNITY STORYTELLING (AGES 6-12)

Materials: paper, crayons or markers, pens or pencils

Retell the story—but from Little Thunder Hoof's point of view! Give each child a part of the story and have them draw a picture and write a few sentences to explain how Little Thunder Hoof feels. Bind all the pages together to make a book or display them in order on a bulletin board.

### CALIFORNIA DREAMING (AGES 7-12)

Materials: paper, pencils or pens, markers or crayons

There's a herd of buffalo living on Catalina Island, off the coast of California. How did buffalo get all the way out there? Make a children's book that tells the story of how a bunch of buffalo ended up on an island.

Illustrate your book and be sure to give it a title! After you're done, look up the Catalina Island buffalo to find out the real story.



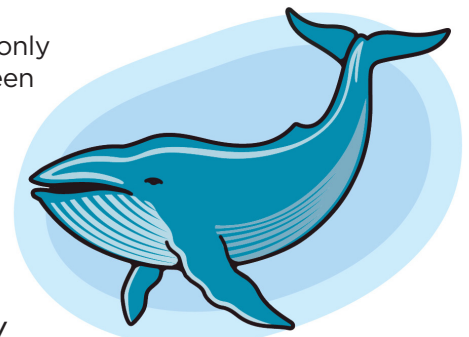
### THE ENDANGERED ZONE (AGES 7-12)

Buffalo aren't the only animals who've been hurt by humans.

An *endangered species* is a plant or animal in danger of going extinct. Visit

[www.fws.gov/endangered/map/index.html](http://www.fws.gov/endangered/map/index.html)

to learn about endangered species in your area. Make a list of at least five things you can do to help protect the wildlife around you. Display the lists to help your center go green!



### TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit [www.explore.org/#!/live-cams/player/plains-bison-grasslands-national-park-cam-1](http://www.explore.org/#!/live-cams/player/plains-bison-grasslands-national-park-cam-1) to watch a live webcam of a buffalo watering hole.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

*A Boy Called Slow* (1998)

*Crazy Horse's Vision* (2006)

*Many Nations: An Alphabet of Native America* (2004)



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