

Powwow's Coming



A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Celebration, Family, American Indian Culture

Grade Level: Pre-K to 1st grade

Book Brief: This book, written in rhyme, is about an American Indian powwow.

Author and Illustrator:
Linda Boyden

TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Ask the children if they know what a powwow is. Have any of them ever been to one? Explain that this book will show some of the exciting things that might happen at a powwow.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

KEEPING THE BEAT (AGES 5-8)

Materials: can with lid, paper bag, construction paper, markers, tape, glue, rubber band, scissors

One purpose of a drum is to help dancers keep a beat. Make a drum to help you follow the rhythm of the story.

1. Cut paper to fit around can. Draw different designs and shapes on paper. Tape to can.
2. Using the paper bag, cut out a circle that's about 2 inches larger than the can lid. Crumple up the paper and roll it around in your hands to soften it.
3. Put the lid on the can. Glue flattened paper circle to lid. Put a rubber band around the top of the can to hold paper on.

DRUM CIRCLE (AGES 5-12)

Have children sit cross-legged in a large circle on the floor. Pick one child to start. Have that child make one drum stroke by slapping their right or left knee, hitting the ground, clapping once, snapping, etc. The next child in the circle should repeat the first child's

stroke and then add their own different stroke. Keep going around the circle like this, adding to the pattern. See how complicated your beat can get before someone forgets a stroke! The child who messes up should start the next round.

"CLAY" BEADS (AGES 8-12)

*This project takes at least 2 days.

Materials: bread, white glue, water, dishwashing soap, bowl, straw, measuring spoon

1. Cut crusts off 7 pieces of bread. Break bread into tiny pieces. Place pieces in a bowl.
2. Add 7 tsp. of white glue. Mix well. Add 1/2 tsp. of water and 1/2 tsp. of dishwashing soap. (Use more water if mixture is too dry.) Knead mixture.
3. Take a small amount and roll it into a ball with your fingers. Use a straw to punch a hole in bead. Repeat. Let beads dry for 24 hours.
4. String beads on yarn or pipe cleaners. (Recipe makes about 20 beads.)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURE

Saltypie, Tim Tingle (2010), *Jingle Dancer*, Cynthia Leitich Smith (2000), *A Boy Called Slow*, Joseph Bruchac (1998), *Coyote Places the Stars*, Harriet Peck Taylor (1997).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

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