

# Native American and Indigenous Booklist

for Pre-K  
to Grade 8+



*When the Shadbush Blooms:*  
written by Carla Messinger  
with Susan Katz, illustrated by  
David Kanietakern Fadden

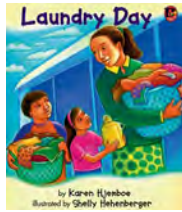
Here at **Lee & Low Books**, we publish a range of Native American, Indigenous, and First Nations children's books, including many #ownvoices titles by Native authors and illustrators. Find leveled readers and award-winning picture books as well as middle grade and YA novels highlighting Native American cultures. We are proud to showcase stories that celebrate Native voices and experiences of Native communities historically underrepresented or misrepresented in children's literature.





leeandlow.com/books/  
at-the-park

**At the Park** • written by Judy Nayer, illustrated by Kayeri Akweks • A Mohawk boy visits the park and uses his five senses to discover the natural world around him. (Also available in Spanish.)  
**Leveled reading**



leeandlow.com/books/  
laundry-day

**Laundry Day** • written by Karen Hjemboe, illustrated by Shelly Hehenberger • Two Navajo children help their mother do the weekly wash at the laundromat. (Also available in Spanish.)  
**Leveled reading**



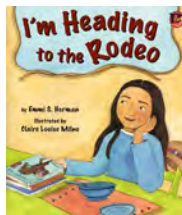
leeandlow.com/books/  
fancy-dance

**Fancy Dance** • written by Leslie Johnson, illustrated by Kayeri Akweks • A young Native boy dances the Fancy Dance at a powwow for the first time. (Also available in Spanish.)  
**Leveled reading**



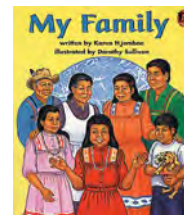
leeandlow.com/books/  
i-make-clay-pots

**I Make Clay Pots** • written by Leslie Johnson, illustrated by Bryn Barnard • A Pueblo girl learns the traditional art of making pottery from her grandmother. (Also available in Spanish.)  
**Leveled reading**



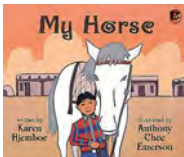
leeandlow.com/books/  
i-m-heading-to-the-rodeo

**I'm Heading to the Rodeo** • written by Emmi S. Herman, illustrated by Claire Louise Milne • A young Native girl daydreams of being in a rodeo. (Also available in Spanish.)  
**Leveled reading**



leeandlow.com/books/  
my-family

**My Family** • written by Karen Hjemboe, illustrated by Dorothy Sullivan • A Cherokee girl learns traditional skills and customs from the members of her family. (Also available in Spanish.)  
**Leveled reading**



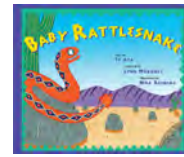
leeandlow.com/books/  
my-horse

**My Horse** • written by Karen Hjemboe, illustrated by Anthony Chee Emerson • A young Pueblo boy living on a reservation in New Mexico cares for and rides his horse. (Also available in Spanish.)  
**Leveled reading**



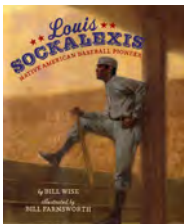
leeandlow.com/books/  
living-in-an-igloo

**Living in an Igloo** • written and photographed by Jan Reynolds • Meet a young Inuit girl and her family. Learn why they sometimes live in an igloo and what life in an igloo is like.  
**Leveled reading**



leeandlow.com/books/  
baby-rattlesnake

**Baby Rattlesnake/Viborita de Cascabel** • written by Te Ata and Lynn Moroney, illustrated by Mira Reisberg • In this vibrantly illustrated Pawnee folktale, a young rattlesnake must learn self-control once he receives his first rattle.



leeandlow.com/books/  
louis-sockalexis

**Louis Sockalexis** • written by Bill Wise, illustrated by Bill Farnsworth • Louis Sockalexis, a Penobscot Indian, was the first Native American to play professional baseball. This biography focuses on his formative years and culminates in a historic game at New York's Polo Grounds in 1897.



leeandlow.com/books/  
the-blue-roses

**The Blue Roses** • written by Linda Boyden, illustrated by Amy Córdova • A contemporary Native American girl learns to understand the cycle of life after her beloved grandfather dies.



leeandlow.com/books/  
when-the-shadbush-  
blooms

**When the Shadbush Blooms** • written by Carla Messinger with Susan Katz, illustrated by David Kanietakeron Fadden • A young Lenape Indian girl observes and reflects on the small, important ways both her family and her ancestors celebrate the cycle of seasons.



leeandlow.com/books/  
a-man-called-raven

**A Man Called Raven** • written by Richard Van Camp, illustrated by George Littlechild • Set in the Northwest Territories of Canada, Van Camp's contemporary Native story draws from the animal legends and folklore told to him by his Dogrib elders. Littlechild's bold use of color and perspective captures the sense of mystery and magic surrounding a strange raven man who teaches two boys respect for nature.



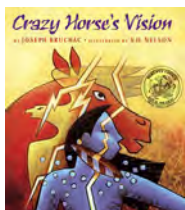
leeandlow.com/books/  
bears-make-rock-soup

**Bears Make Rock Soup** • written by Lise Erdrich, illustrated by Lisa Fiedler • In this powerful collection of paintings and stories, Lise Erdrich and Lisa Fiedler honor the people, animals, forests, and rivers that have lived in harmony beneath the wide skies of the Plains.



leeandlow.com/books/  
buffalo-song

**Buffalo Song** • written by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by Bill Farnsworth • Hunted to the brink of extinction, buffalo were in danger of vanishing, until Walking Coyote and his family launched the first efforts to save the magnificent creatures.



leeandlow.com/books/  
crazy-horse-s-vision

**Crazy Horse's Vision** • written by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by S. D. Nelson • Bruchac and Nelson paint the story of the famous Lakota war leader Crazy Horse, showing his path to humility, bravery, and strength.



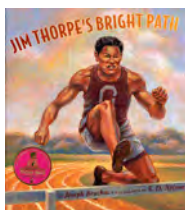
leeandlow.com/books/  
giving-thanks

**Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message** • written by Chief Jake Swamp, illustrated by Erwin Printup • A traditional Iroquois celebration of the beauty and spirit of Mother Earth, as told by a contemporary Mohawk chief. (Also available in Spanish.)



leeandlow.com/books/  
home-to-medicine-mountain

**Home to Medicine Mountain** • written by Chiori Santiago, illustrated by Judith Lowry • Two young Maidu Indian brothers, sent to live at a government-run Indian residential school in California in the 1930s, find a way to escape and return home for the summer.



leeandlow.com/books/  
jim-thorpe-s-bright-path

**Jim Thorpe's Bright Path** • written by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by S. D. Nelson • Meet Jim Thorpe, an exceptional athlete with natural talent and the first Native American to win an Olympic gold medal.



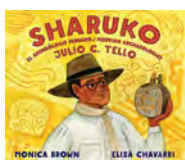
leeandlow.com/books/  
kiki-s-journey

**Kiki's Journey** • written by Kristy Orona-Ramirez, illustrated by Jonathan Warm Day • Kiki's tender story sensitively portrays the rewards and challenges of contemporary Indian life, as Kiki grapples with her Tiwa Indian heritage and Los Angeles city roots.



leeandlow.com/books/  
sky-dancers

**Sky Dancers** • written by Connie Ann Kirk, illustrated by Christy Hale • A young boy living on the Mohawk Reservation is amazed by the construction work his father does on the skyscrapers of New York City in this story based on the history of Mohawk steelworkers.



leeandlow.com/books/  
sharuko

**Sharuko: El arqueólogo peruano Julio C. Tello / Peruvian Archeologist Julio C. Tello** • written by Monica Brown, illustrated by Elisa Chavarri • A fascinating bilingual picture book biography of Peruvian archeologist and national icon Julio C. Tello, who unearthed Peru's ancient cultures and fostered pride in the country's Indigenous history.



leeandlow.com/books/  
stone-river-crossing

**Stone River Crossing** • written by Tim Tingle • From the award-winning author of *How I Became a Ghost* comes a tale of unlikely friendship and miracles. When Martha Tom helps Lil Mo and his family escape from the plantation across the river, it's just the beginning of a Choctaw adventure of a lifetime.



leeandlow.com/books/  
the-people-shall-continue

**The People Shall Continue** • written by Simon J. Ortiz, illustrated by Sharol Graves • Renowned Acoma Pueblo poet and storyteller Simon J. Ortiz traces the progress of Native/Indigenous people of North America from the time of creation to the present. (Also available in Spanish.)



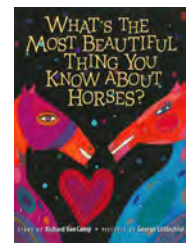
leeandlow.com/books/  
the-woman-who-outshone-the-sun-la-mujer-que-brillaba-aun-mas-que-el-sol

**The Woman Who Outshone the Sun/La mujer que brillaba aún más que el sol** • written by Alejandro Martinez, illustrated by Fernando Olivera • In this legend from the Zapotec Indians of Oaxaca, when the villagers banish the brilliant Lucia Zenteno from town, their river leaves with her.



leeandlow.com/books/  
this-land-is-my-land

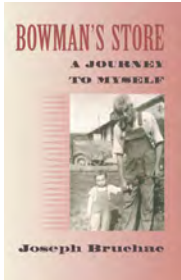
**This Land is My Land** • written and illustrated by George Littlechild • Acclaimed Plain Cree author and illustrator George Littlechild writes of his Native heritage, his inspiring ancestors, and the hardships his people faced.



leeandlow.com/books/  
what-s-the-most-beautiful-thing-you-know-about-horses

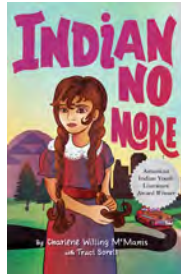
**What's the Most Beautiful Thing You Know About Horses?** • written by Richard Van Camp, illustrated by George Littlechild • Richard Van Camp of the Dogrib (Tlicho) Nation explores all the ways horses are valuable and beautiful.





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bowman-s-store](http://leeandlow.com/books/bowman-s-store)

**Bowman's Store: A Journey to Myself** • written by Joseph Bruchac • Award-winning author Joseph Bruchac describes in his memoir the close bond between himself and his grandfather and the secret that was hidden from him: his Abenaki Indian heritage.



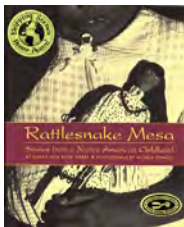
[leeandlow.com/books/  
indian-no-more](http://leeandlow.com/books/indian-no-more)

**Indian No More** • written by Charlene Willing McManis with Traci Sorell • American Indian Youth Literature Award winner! In this powerful middle-grade novel, Regina and her family must relocate from the Umpqua reservation in Oregon to Los Angeles after their tribal rights are terminated.



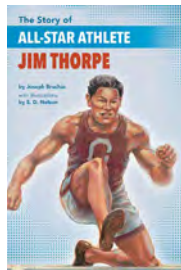
[leeandlow.com/books/  
quiet-hero](http://leeandlow.com/books/quiet-hero)

**Quiet Hero** • written and illustrated by S. D. Nelson • A poignant biography of Ira Hayes, the quiet Pima Indian who became one of six soldiers to raise the United States flag on Iwo Jima during World War II.



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rattlesnake-mesa](http://leeandlow.com/books/rattlesnake-mesa)

**Rattlesnake Mesa** • written by EdNah New Rider Weber, photographed by Richela Renkun • The true account of a spirited Native American girl's experiences growing up on a reservation and attending Phoenix Indian School in the 1920s, accompanied by photographs that recreate the time and place.



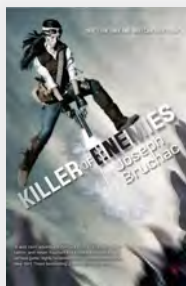
[leeandlow.com/books/  
the-story-of-all-star-athlete-jim-thorpe](http://leeandlow.com/books/the-story-of-all-star-athlete-jim-thorpe)

**The Story of All-Star Athlete Jim Thorpe** • written by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by S. D. Nelson • Meet Jim Thorpe, an exceptional athlete with natural talent and the first Native American to win an Olympic gold medal.



[leeandlow.com/books/  
wolf-mark](http://leeandlow.com/books/wolf-mark)

**Wolf Mark** • written by Joseph Bruchac • Luke King, whose father is a black-ops infiltrator, uses the skills his father taught him to figure out his family's paranormal secret and save his kidnapped father and his own friends.



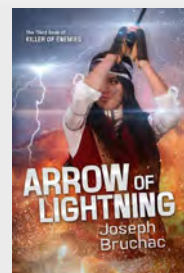
[leeandlow.com/books/  
killer-of-enemies](http://leeandlow.com/books/killer-of-enemies)

**Killer of Enemies** • written by Joseph Bruchac • In this post-apocalyptic YA novel with a steampunk twist, based on an Apache legend, Lozen is a monster hunter for four tyrants who are holding her family hostage. **An American Indian Youth Literature Award winner!**



[leeandlow.com/books/  
trail-of-the-dead](http://leeandlow.com/books/trail-of-the-dead)

**Trail of the Dead (Killer of Enemies Book #2)** • written by Joseph Bruchac • In this sequel to *Killer of Enemies*, Lozen and her family embark on a journey along a perilous trail once followed by her ancestors, where they meet friends and foes alike.



[leeandlow.com/books/  
arrow-of-lightning](http://leeandlow.com/books/arrow-of-lightning)

**Arrow of Lightning (Killer of Enemies Book #3)** • written by Joseph Bruchac • In the final installment of the *Killer of Enemies* series, Lozen attempts to live without the violence that so far has defined her life, but the remaining Ones will not let that happen without a fight.



[leeandlow.com/books/  
i-remember](http://leeandlow.com/books/i-remember)

**I Remember: Poems and Pictures of Heritage** • compiled by Lee Bennett Hopkins. In a celebration of diversity and family, fourteen poets and sixteen illustrators of diverse backgrounds share memorable childhood experiences and reflect upon their different heritages, traditions, and beliefs. Native authors include Cynthia Leitich-Smith, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek Nation); Joseph Bruchac, of Abenaki ancestry; and Jorge Argueta, a Pipil Nahua Indian from El Salvador. Native illustrators include Jeanne Rorex Bridges of Cherokee ancestry and David Kanietakeron Fadden, Wolf Clan Mohawk.