

Core Skills Analysis

Cultural Studies

- Learned about the cultural significance of a Pow Wow and its role in Native American traditions.
- Explored the symbolism and meaning behind the Gods Eye craft, a traditional Indigenous weaving art.
- Gained exposure to stories and cultural expressions through the Indian in the Cupboard movie.
- Developed respect and curiosity for Indigenous cultures through hands-on craft and storytelling.

Fine Motor Skills

- Practiced hand-eye coordination and dexterity through the weaving required to make a Gods Eye craft.
- Enhanced patience and focus by following step-by-step instructions to complete the craft.
- Improved ability to manipulate small objects and materials, strengthening fine motor control.

Creative Arts

- Engaged in creative expression by choosing colors and patterns for the Gods Eye craft.
- Learned about the importance of patterns and symmetry in traditional Indigenous arts.
- Experienced storytelling through multiple media — craft and film — that deepen cultural appreciation.

Tips

Tips: To deepen understanding beyond this activity, consider exploring more Native American crafts such as dream catchers or beadwork to highlight the diversity of Indigenous arts. Organize a simple mock Pow Wow at home or in a community setting where children can participate in traditional dances and songs, enriching their experiential learning. Encourage discussions about the values and history represented by these cultural elements to build empathy and historical knowledge. Watching additional age-appropriate films that highlight Indigenous peoples respectfully, or reading native legends aloud, can foster a broader comprehension of cultural narratives and identities.

Book Recommendations

- [The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush](#) by Tomie dePaola: A beautifully illustrated story inspired by Native American legends explaining the origins of the colorful brush used for paintings.
- [The Powwow at the End of the World](#) by Dr. David Bouchard: A poetic tale celebrating Indigenous tradition and the power of community and ceremony.
- [Indian in the Cupboard](#) by Lynne Reid Banks: A beloved story about a boy who discovers his toy Indian figure comes to life, exploring themes of friendship and respect for culture.

Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3 - Describe connections between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.3 - Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using descriptive details.
- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.G.A.1 - Recognize and draw shapes having specified attributes.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1 - Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts.

Try This Next

- Create a step-by-step Gods Eye craft worksheet that explains weaving patterns and color choices.
- Develop quiz questions about Pow Wow traditions and the stories behind Gods Eye crafts.
- Write a short story imagining a character's experience at a Pow Wow event.
- Draw a scene inspired by the Indian in the Cupboard film to illustrate key moments.