

# **Powwow Day**

## **Written By: Traci Sorell**

## **Illustrated By: Madelyn Goodnight**

**Synopsis:** River wants so badly to dance at powwow day as she does every year. In this uplifting and contemporary picture book perfect for beginning readers, follow River's journey from feeling isolated after an illness to learning the healing power of community.

**Suggested Reading Date:** October 12 (Indigenous People's Day); November (Native American Heritage Month)

### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Make and play a Ball & Triangle game. IllumiNative - Penobscot Nation Youth Ball & Triangle Game: <https://illuminative.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Activity-3-PK-2 - NIEA-Illuminative Ball Triangle-Game-Activity.pdf>
- Do a gratitude or act of kindness activity (Greater Good in Education): <https://ggie.berkeley.edu/collection/helping-students-feel-connected-to-each-other/>
- Learn the Native tribe(s) & language(s) spoken in your area. Research some basic words and their pronunciation with students: <https://native-land.ca>
- Learn about the importance of the talking stick in many Native American cultures. Have students make their own (IllumiNative): <https://illuminative.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Activity-16-PK-2 -NIEA-Illuminative Making-a-Talking-Stick-The-Legend-Behind-the-Talking-Feather.pdf>

### **Related Websites:**

- Traci Sorell's website: <https://www.tracisorell.com>
- Madelyn Goodnight's website: <https://www.madelyngoodnight.com>
- Powwow Day Activity Kit from Charlesbridge: <https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0750/0101/files/powwow-day-activity-guide.pdf>
- Powwow Trail | The Ways (PBS Video): <https://kcts9.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/the-ways-powwow-trail/wpt-education/>
- Jingle Dress Dance: <https://www.powwows.com/jingle-dress-dance/>
- Native American Games by Tribe: <https://nativeamericans.mrdonn.org/games.html>
- IllumiNative - Native American Lesson Plans: <https://illuminative.org/resources/>

### **Text to Text Connections:**

- *Bowwow Powwow* by Brenda Child
- *Fry Bread* by Kevin Noble Maillard
- *First Laugh* by Rose Ann Tahe
- *We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom
- *Raven* by Gerald McDermott
- *The First Blade of Sweetgrass* by Suzanne Greenlaw

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