

## Resources for American Indians of California

For a list of specific resources related to the Kumeyaay Indians of San Diego County, refer to *The Kumeyaay Nation*, published by Harcourt School Publishers, pages 23 – 25.

Arlen, Karen W.; Batt, Margaret; Benson, Mary Ann; and Kester, Nancie N. *They Came Singing: Songs from California's History*. Oakland, CA: Calicanto Associates. 1995. This booklet and the accompanying CD-Rom contains a collection of over sixty traditional songs set in an historical context. Although none of the songs is Cahuilla, the collection of predominately vocal tribal music is a welcome addition to the curriculum. The melodies are of small range and usually pentatonic (five tone scale). Songs and dances may be accompanied by clapper sticks, flutes, and various types of rattles.

Bertram, Debbie & Bloom, Susan. *A Monument to Treasure*. Palm Springs, CA: Desert Publications, 2005. [www.palmspringslife.com](http://www.palmspringslife.com) ISBN 0-9772908-0-8. Beautifully illustrated by Stuart Funk, this children's book provides excellent background information on the different kinds of plants and animals found in the desert and the mountainous land of the Cahuilla. The monument of the title refers to the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument.

Boscana, Reverend Father Friar Geronimo. Santa Barbara, CA: Peregrine Smith Inc. 1972. An historical account of the origin, customs, and traditions of the Indians of Alta-California, this primary source is included together with *Life in California* by Alfred Robinson.

Busenberg, B. E. & Roeder, E.D. *California's First People: Their Search for Food*. Claremont: Green Oak Publishing. 1990. ISBN 0-9627639-3-4. This book includes activities and student literature such as "The Acorn Gatherers" and "The Acorn Maidens".

Cherry, L. *A River Ran Wild: An Environmental History*. New York: Harcourt Brace & Co. 1992. ISBN 0-5909-99519-7. A pictorial timeline of the history of New England's Nashua Native American area is provided. Each page has a border of artifacts which can serve as a model of the "San Diego Through Time" History Book described in the *Extended Activities for Unit 2*.

Caduto, Michael, and Joseph Bruchac. *Keepers of the Earth: Native American Stories and Environmental Activities for Children*. Golden, CO: Fulcrum, Inc., 1988. This book can serve as a helpful resource for teachers. It incorporates a variety of American Indian cultures in geographical and environmental projects.

Eargle, D. H., Jr. *The Earth is Our Mother: A Guide to the Indians of California – Their Locales and Historic Sites*. San Francisco: Trees Co, Press. 1992. ISBN 0-937401-09-9. This is a standard reference for those interested in California's Indians. Sensitively written, it not only tells their history, it bridges the gap between past and present with information on how these people live today.

Gendar, Jeannine. *Grass Games and Moon Races: California Indian Games and Toys*. Berkeley, CA: Heyday Books. 1995. In very thorough detail, this book describes field games, hoop and pole games, bows, arrows, sticks and stones games, hand games, dice games, string figures, and today's games. It also describes the difference between the tribes in how they play.

Harvey, Karen D., Lisa Harjo, and Jane Jackson. *Teaching About Native Americans* (Second Edition). Waldorf, Maryland: National Council for the Social Studies Publications, 1997. This publication

provides practical support for elementary and secondary teachers, including lesson plans, extensive resources, and information about the indigenous peoples of this country.

Heizer, Robert F., Editor. *The Indians of Los Angeles County: Hugo Reid's Letters of 1852*. Highland Park, Los Angeles, CA: Southwest Museum Papers Number Twenty-One. 1968. This primary source includes first-hand accounts of the Indians of Los Angeles County.

Hubbard, Fran. *A Day with Tupi: An Indian Boy of Yosemite*. Fredericksburg, Texas: Awani Press. 1978. This book describes what a young Indian boy sees, the food he eats, the games he plays, with whom he interacts, and what he does throughout his day. It is written in story form.

Keyworth, C.L. *The First Americans: California Indians*. New York: Facts on File, International Book Marketing Ltd. 1991. The book describes the ways of life of many California Indians and the regions in which they live. It also has a chapter that focuses on changes over time up to present-day issues. Excellent photographs are included.

Korb, V. & C., Eds. *Echoes of Our Past: California Native Americans*. Sacramento, CA: California Department of Parks and Recreation. 1997. This 30 minute video provides a broad coverage and depicts the ways Native Californians cultures adapted their lifestyles to their geographical regions. It depicts culture (including ceremonies, clothing, food, medicine, shelter storytelling, tools, and transportation) of a variety of Native Californians, “their history, their tragic decline, and their present cultural revival.” Stressed is the importance of grinding acorns and making tule huts in the Sierras. Great primary sources. Grades 3 and up.

Lee, M. *Indians of the Oaks*. Illustrated by L. W. Lee. San Diego Museum of Man. 1989. ISBN 0-937808-50-4. This rare book includes children’s stories for grades 4 to 6 (read-aloud for grade 3) about the past lifestyles of the Kumeyaay of San Diego County. The stories, “Going for Acorns” and “It takes Two to Build a House,” work well with this unit.

Margolin, Malcolm, Editor. *The Way We Lived: California Indian Stories, Songs and Reminiscences*. Berkeley: Heyday Books, California Historical Society. This book provides a variety of background resources for the teacher.

McCawley, W. *The First Angelinos: The Gabrielino Indians of Los Angeles*. Banning: Malki Museum Press. 1996. ISBN 0-9651016-0-1. “A definitive monograph on the Gabrielino [that] has been long overdue”. A rich teacher’s resource, the most comprehensive to date with maps, illustrations, and photographs.

Nechodom, K. *The Rainbow Bridge: A Chumash Legend*. Illustrated by T. Nechodom. Los Osos, CA: Sand River Press. 1992. ISBN 0-944627-36-6. This ancient legend set on Santa Cruz Island explains the origin of fire and the first dolphins. The book contains fabulous paintings with native pictographs. Also available as Wood, Audrey. *The Rainbow Bridge*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace. 1995.

O’Dell, Scott. *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell Books for Young Readers. 1997. This is a story about a Native American woman who is left behind as her tribe evacuates their small island off the coast of Santa Barbara. She is left alone to survive – she must build a shelter, find food and fresh water, and fight off the wild dogs that killed her brother.