



# NATIVE NOW

THE NATIVE NOW CAMPAIGN IS EDUCATING AMERICANS ON HOW TO TALK IN A RESPECTFUL WAY ABOUT AND WITH NATIVE PEOPLES. USE THIS HANDOUT AS A GUIDE TO CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CLASSROOM OR WITH FRIENDS.

## DO

- ... REFER TO NATIVE PEOPLE AS NATIVE AMERICAN OR INDIGENOUS.
- ... TELL STUDENTS NATIVE AMERICANS STILL EXIST.
- ... EXPLAIN WHAT TRIBAL CITIZENSHIP MEANS.
- ... TELL YOUR STUDENTS THE TRUTH ABOUT EUROPEANS COMING TO THE US AND COLONIZATION.
- ... SHOW STUDENTS CONTEMPORARY PHOTOS OF NATIVE PEOPLES.
- ... ACKNOWLEDGE NATIVE PEOPLES DON'T LIVE IN TIPIS AND THAT NOT ALL TRIBES LIVED IN TIPIS.
- ... TELL STUDENTS THE NUMBER OF FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES.
- ... ALLOW NATIVE STUDENTS TO TELL THEIR STORY.
- ... WATCH MOLLY OF DENALI.
- ... USE LESSON PLANS AND ARTS AND CRAFTS ACTIVITIES PROVIDED.
- ... BE HONEST AND TELL THE TRUTH, LIKE "MANY NATIVE NATIONS WERE FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR LANDS AFTER THE US GOVERNMENT BROKE THEIR TREATIES."
- ... ACKNOWLEDGE THAT TRIBAL NATIONS RUN THEIR OWN ECONOMIC SYSTEMS AND REVENUE, AND AS SOVEREIGN NATIONS, THEY ARE ABLE TO SPEND AND GIVE AS THEY SEE FIT.
- ... EXPLAIN WHAT CULTURAL APPROPRIATION IS AND WHY IT IS AN ISSUE.
- ... TALK ABOUT CURRENT EFFORTS BY NATIVE NATIONS TO STRIVE FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY.
- ... ALLOW ALL NATIVE CHILDREN TO WEAR TRADITIONAL REGALIA DURING GRADUATION CEREMONIES.

## DO NOT

- ... PLAY COWBOYS AND INDIANS.
- ... ASK YOUR STUDENTS TO DRESS UP AS NATIVE PEOPLE.
- ... WEAR OR MAKE HEADRESSES AS AN ACTIVITY.
- ... CONFIRM A CHILD'S TRIBAL HERITAGE IF YOU DON'T KNOW.
- ... THINK THAT A DNA TEST AFFORDS YOU TRIBAL CITIZENSHIP.
- ... ROMANTICIZE NATIVE PEOPLES.
- ... SHOW YOUR STUDENTS POCAHONTAS.
- ... TOKENIZE YOUR NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS.
- ... GIVE SPIRIT ANIMAL OR "INDIAN" NAMES TO YOUR STUDENTS.
- ... EXPECT A NATIVE STUDENT TO KNOW ALL OR EXPLAIN ALL THINGS ABOUT NATIVE PEOPLE.
- ... CREATE NATIVE "COSTUMES" AS PART OF A LESSON PLAN.
- ... SAY WE WILLINGLY GAVE OUR LAND AWAY.
- ... SPREAD THE MISCONCEPTION THAT NATIVE PEOPLES RECEIVE "FREE" MONEY/COLLEGE TUITION JUST FOR "BEING NATIVE."
- ... TALK ABOUT FRYBREAD AS "TRADITIONAL NATIVE FOOD."
- ... USE OR SUPPORT "INDIAN/REDSKIN" MASCOTS.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT.  
VISIT [WWW.ILLUMINATIVES.ORG/NATIVENOW](http://WWW.ILLUMINATIVES.ORG/NATIVENOW)