



HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT INDIAN EDUCATION



OCTOBER, 2019

INDIGENOUS NEWS NOW NEWSLETTER

Aanii, Boozhoo (Hello),

October is among us. October is a month to help us keep reference to the time of the year in contemporary learning. However, my job is to teach native understanding from a traditional manner. Natives have never used the calendar to give reference to the year. The seasons have been scheduled in the month system. The change of the seasons was a measurement of how natives prepared for the next and each season has a spiritual being.

Fall for indigenous people was a time to prepare for the next season to come which was winter, and was also a time to talk about the season that past. Fall was blessed with a powerful spirit which is now known as Indian Summer; this spirit gave the indigenous the opportunity the last ditch effort to gather whatever needs that were required to get through the winter to come.

Indigenous were migrant travelers; they were never in the same location in each season. This allowed them to survive throughout history. Today, the reservations have isolated the native people, and they never recovered their traditional lifestyle.

Migration also changed the type of foods indigenous people ate, and it varied for many tribes. For plains tribes, it was rabbit, buffalo, deer, moose, elk and other animals. Each species had a spirit; that is why when the life of the animal was taken a prayer was offered. Vitamins were provided with squashes, potatoes, wild rice blueberries, raspberries, etc. Maple syrup was the sweetner and minerals for plains tribes.

Amanda WalkingChild

Educational Tidbits and Resources

The city of Helena and Missoula do not celebrate Columbus Day. They have adopted and changed it to Indigenous Peoples Day. Here is a link on States and towns in the United States who do and do not observe Columbus Day.

<https://www.officeholidays.com/holidays/usa/columbus-day-state-guide>

Indigenous people have celebrated pumpkins for many centuries. The pumpkin is an original food that was used to make soups, bread, and desserts. The outer shell of the pumpkin was dried and peeled into strips to weave mats.

Here is a list of pumpkin stories that you could possibly use.

Princess Scargo And The Birthday Pumpkin: THE NATIVE AMERICAN LEGEND (Rabbit Ears: a Classic Tale) By Eric Metaxas

The Sun's Daughter; by Pat Sherman

Informational links of pumpkins and Native Americans:

<http://maefonline.com/pdfs/Pumpkins%20Now%20and%20Then.pdf>

<http://www.native-languages.org/legends-pumpkin.htm>



Helena High students, as they finished setting up the tipi at Rossiter Elementary for Native American Heritage week.

THE DIFFERENCE IN INDIAN EDUCATION

INDIAN EDUCATION

IEFA- INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL	TITLE VI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IEFA is a state funded program that provides resources for educators for the implementation of the 7 Essential Understandings to Native and Non-Native Students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title VI is a federally funded program that provides aid and services to Native students. It provides for not only the basic elementary and secondary educational needs, but also the unique educational and culturally related academic needs of children.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 7 Essential understandings are a guide for teachers to use to teach about the important histories and current events relating to our reservations in Montana. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title VI- provides Academic Tutors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IEFA provides professional development for teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Nights Youth Conferences Student Trips Youth Leadership Indian Education Graduation Ceremony
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IEFA provides liaisons for each school in the district 	

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VACANT	ELEMENTARY TUTOR	
VACANT	ELEMENTARY TUTOR	

We are in the process of hiring 2 elementary tutors

Upcoming Events

October 24, Indian Ed Open House 6-8 pm	February 6, Indian Ed Family Night
November 7, Indian Ed Family Night	April 9, Indian Ed Family Night
November 11-15, Roc your Mocs Week	May 21, Celebrating Seniors Night
December 5, Indian Ed Family Night	