

Native American Lore Brownie Try-It

Try-It symbol: Unalackigo – turkey



Complete at least 4 activities:

1. Participate in and learn a Native American dance. Discuss different ways they dance and dress.
2. Memorize and sing a Native American song. Discuss the importance of the drum and why songs were taught to the young.
3. Try to make a traditional Native American food such as potato chips, roasted corn, or Cracker Jack. Native Americans traditionally made Cracker Jack with maple syrup and popcorn.
4. Learn how to make a Native American craft, such as an armband, choker, or turtle rattle. Find out if there was a purpose for it and what it was originally made from.
5. Most Native Americans did not have a written language. Elders who would retell stories passed down history and traditions orally. They also used picture grams on what was called a "winter's count". Pictures portraying important events in the tribe were drawn on a tanned hide. You can do the same with a brown paper bag, cut to look like a hide. Start from the center and work counter-clockwise, drawing important events that happened in your life.
6. Learn and play a Native American game. One game is The Cat's Cradle, a type of tag. Seven or more girls form a line. The leader tries to swing the line so that she can turn and tag the girl at the end of the line. The girl at the end must keep her place in line, but she may duck and twist to avoid being tagged. If she lets go of the line or if the leader tags her, she becomes the leader and the girl that was in front of her becomes the end of the line.
7. Listen to or learn a Native American story.
8. Take a trip to the library and learn about other Native American cultures. Every tribe was different, depending on climate, location and food that was available.