Broaden your perspective with these stories that celebrate indigenous people and amplify the voices of Native American authors and illustrators. All of these titles are available for checkout with your ACPL library card.
**Books for Young Readers**

**May We Have Enough to Share**
by Richard Van Camp
A beautiful board book about gratitude by celebrated Indigenous author Richard Van Camp, complemented by photos from Tea & Bannock, a collective blog by Indigenous women photographers.

**Josie Dances**
by Denise Lajimodiere and Angela Erdrich
As she prepares for her first powwow, an Ojibwe girl practices her dance steps, gets help from her family, and is inspired by the soaring flight of Migizi, the eagle.

**Fry Bread**
by Kevin Noble Maillard and Juana Martinez-Neal
With buoyant, heartfelt illustrations that show the diversity in Native America, the book tells the story of a post-colonial food, a shared tradition across the North American continent.

**I Sang You Down from the Stars**
by Tasha Spillett-Sumner and Michaela Goadel
A Native American woman describes how she loved her child before it was born and, throughout her pregnancy, gathered a bundle of gifts to welcome the newborn.

**We All Play**
by Julie Flett
This book celebrates diversity and the interconnectedness of nature through an Indigenous perspective, complete with a glossary of Cree words for wild animals at the back of the book, and children repeating a Cree phrase throughout the book.

**We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga**
by Traci Sorell & Frané Lessac
Follows a full year of Cherokee celebrations and experiences, describing how the Cherokee Nation expresses thanks and reflects on struggles all year long.
**Books for Young Readers**

**Birdsong**  
*by Julie Flett*  
When a young girl moves to a small town, she feels lonely and out of place. But soon she meets an elderly woman next door, who shares her love of arts and crafts. Can the girl navigate the changing seasons and failing health of her new friend?

**We Are Water Protectors**  
*by Carole Lindstrom and Michaela Goade*  
Inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America, *We Are Water Protectors* issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth’s water from harm and corruption.

**All Around Us**  
*by Xelena González and Adriana M. Garcia*  
A young girl with Native American and Spanish heritage learns from her grandfather that circles are all around us as they meditate on the cycles of life and nature.

**Bowwow Powwow**  
*by Brenda J. Child and Jonathan Thunder*  
Translated by Gordon Jourdain  
When Uncle and Windy Girl attend a powwow, Windy watches the dancers and listens to the singers. Later, Windy falls asleep under the stars. Uncle’s stories inspire visions in her head: a bowwow powwow, where all the dancers are dogs.

**Jo Jo Makoons: The Used-to-Be Best Friend**  
*by Dawn Quigley and Tara Audibert*  
Even though Jo Jo loves her #1 best friend Mimi (who is a cat), she’s worried that she needs to figure out how to make more friends because Fern, her best friend at school, may not want to be friends anymore.
We Are Still Here!
by Traci Sorell & Frané Lessac
A group of Native American kids from different tribes presents twelve historical and contemporary time periods, struggles, and victories to their classmates, each ending with a powerful refrain: we are still here.

Treaty Words
by Aimée Craft and Luke Swinson
This narrative nonfiction book proves an understanding of Indigenous perspectives on treaty relationships, affording vital—and not often heard—historical and cultural context to these living agreements.

A Peacemaker for Warring Nations
by Joseph Bruchac & David Kanietykaron Fadden
Tells the story of how “the Peacemaker,” a divine messenger sent by the Creator, helped to bring an end to the bitter warring of the Five Iroquois Nations and how he founded the famed League of the Iroquois, which was later to influence the US Constitution.

Classified
by Traci Sorell and Natasha Donovan
Highlights the life and work of Mary Golda Ross who designed classified airplanes and spacecraft as Lockheed Aircraft Corporation’s first female engineer. Find out how her passion for math and the Cherokee values she was raised with shaped her life and work.

Chester Nez and the Unbreakable Code
by Joseph Bruchac and Liz Amini-Holmes
This powerful picture book depicts the life of an original Navajo code talker while capturing the importance of heritage.

Red Cloud
by S.D. Nelson
This book is the story of the Lakota and how they were forced onto a reservation, told from the point of view of Red Cloud, warrior and chief of the Lakota. It is a heavily illustrated account, with both text and illustrations.
The Sea in Winter
by Christine Day
After an injury sidelines her dreams of becoming a ballet star, Maisie is not excited for her blended family’s midwinter road trip along the coast, near the Makah community where her mother grew up.

Sisters of the Neversea
by Cynthia Leitich Smith
In this magical, modern twist on Peter Pan, stepsisters Lily and Wendy are spirited away to Neverland by a mysterious boy and must find a way back to the family they love.

I Can Make This Promise
by Christine Day
When twelve-year-old Edie finds letters and photographs in her attic that change everything she thought she knew about her Native American mother’s adoption, she realizes she has a lot to learn about her family’s history and her own identity.

Healer of the Water Monster
by Brian Young
A debut novel inspired by Native-American culture follows the experiences of a boy whose summer at his grandmother’s reservation home is shaped by his uncle’s addictions and an encounter with a sacred being from the Navajo Creation Story.

In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse
by Joseph M. Marshall III and Jim Yellowhawk
Teased for his fair coloring, eleven-year-old Jimmy McClean travels with his grandfather to learn about his Lakota heritage while visiting places significant in the life of Crazy Horse, the nineteenth-century Lakota leader and warrior, in a tale that weaves the past with the present.

Indian No More
by Charlene Willing McManis & Traci Sorell
When Regina’s Umpqua tribe is legally terminated and her family must relocate from Oregon to Los Angeles, she goes on a quest to understand her identity as an Indian despite being so far from home.

Rez Dogs
by Joseph Bruchac
When the COVID-19 pandemic starts, Malian, a young Wabanaki girl, is quarantined with her grandparents on the reservation, where she befriends a local dog and learns about her ancestors and how they always survive together.

Ancestor Approved
edited by Cynthia Leitich Smith
A collection of intersecting stories set at a powwow that bursts with hope, joy, resilience, the strength of community, and Native pride.
**TEEN NONFICTION**

**Encyclopedia of American Indian History & Culture**  
by Cynthia O’Brien  
This highly visual student reference provides biographical portraits of important Native Americans as well as historical and cultural overviews of more than 160 North American Native tribes.

**Apple: Skin to the Core**  
by Eric Gansworth  
This memoir-in-verse tells the story of the author’s family, of Onondaga among Tuscaroras, of Native folks everywhere, and in doing so grapples with the slur common in Native communities, for someone “red on the outside, white on the inside,” and reclaims it.

**#NotYourPrincess**  
edited by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale  
A collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that express the experience of Indigenous women across North America.

**An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States**  
by Roxanne Dunbar- Ortiz, adapted by Debbie Reese and Jean Mendoza  
This narrative nonfiction book proves an understanding of Indigenous perspectives on treaty relationships, affording vital—and not often heard—historical and cultural context to these living agreements.

**What the Eagle Sees**  
by Eldon Yellowhorn and Kathy Lowinger  
This work of nonfiction tells the stories of what Indigenous people did when invaders arrived on their homelands and shares accounts of the people, places, and events that have mattered in Indigenous history from a vastly under-represented perspective—an Indigenous viewpoint.
**Elatsoe**
by Darcie Little Badger
A Texas teen comes face-to-face with a cousin’s ghost and vows to unmask the murderer in this debut novel featuring an asexual, Apache protagonist.

**Give Me Some Truth**
by Eric Gansworth
Told in alternating first-person narratives, this 1980s Native American coming-of-age story centers on the lives of Carson and Maggi who must make a place for themselves even as tensions are rising between the reservation and the surrounding communities.

**The Marrow Thieves**
by Cherie Dimaline
In a dystopian future, Indigenous people of North America are on the run in a fight for survival where climate devastation ravages the world and the Canadian government’s Recruiters hunt Natives for the dreams that are woven into their bone marrow.

**Firekeeper’s Daughter**
by Angeline Boulley
A groundbreaking YA thriller about a Native teen who must root out the corruption in her community, even if it tears apart the only world she’s ever known.

**Hearts Unbroken**
by Cynthia Leitich Smith
Breaking up with her first real boyfriend when he makes racist remarks about her Native American heritage, high school senior Louise Wolfe teams up with a fellow school newspaper editor to cover a multicultural casting of the school play and the racial hostilities it has exposed.

**Apple in the Middle**
by Dawn Quigley
Bouncing in the middle of two cultures, Apple meets her Native American relatives, shatters stereotypes, and learns what it means to find her place in a world divided by color.

**Walking in Two Worlds**
by Wab Kinew
When Bugz, who is caught between the worlds of life on the Rez and the virtual world, meets Feng, they form an instant bond as outsiders and gamers and must both grapple with the impact of family challenges and community trauma.
**ADULT NONFICTION**

**Braiding Sweetgrass**  
by Robin Wall Kimmerer, Ph.D  
Indigenous botanist, Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer shares the lessons and gifts she has learned from other plants and other living beings so that we may learn to hear the stories of others give our own gifts in return.

**Heart Berries**  
by Terese Marie Mailhot  
Terese Marie Mailhot, a native of the Seabird Island Band, writes about her mental health, her traumatic past, and along the way discovers her own voice and the power to seize control of her story.

**Living Nations, Living Words**  
collected by Joy Harjo  
This powerful and representative anthology compiled by the first Native U.S. Poet Laureate, Joy Harjo, champions and celebrates the works of contemporary Native poets.

**The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee**  
by David Treuer  
David Treuer shares his discovery of a different narrative of American Indians after the Battle at Wounded Knee and it is one of unprecedented resourcefulness and reinvention in the face of hardships and intense struggles to preserve their language, traditions, culture and families.

**ADULT FICTION**

**There There**  
by Tommy Orange  
A powerful, polyphonic story told from the perspectives of twelve Native Americans attending the Big Oakland Powwow that explores the cultural drought faced by many inner-city Native Americans and how it has shaped their lives and sense of identity.

**Where the Dead Sit Talking**  
by Brandon Hobson  
A coming of age story about a Cherokee teen placed in foster care after his mother’s arrest, learning to unpack his emotional and physical trauma with the help of a fellow indigenous foster sibling.

**Crooked Hallelujah**  
by Kelli Jo Ford  
Set in 1974 in the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, this novel-in-stories is about the multi-generational sacrifices made by proud and stubborn mothers and daughters who sacrifice all for those they love when history, religion, class, culture, and mother nature herself is out to tear them apart.

**Cherokee America**  
by Margaret Verble  
Set in the Cherokee Nation after the Civil War, follow one woman’s story of motherhood, near widow status, mixed-race marriage relations, disappearing neighbors, and family scandal.