101 Free Ways to Celebrate

**Alaska Native Heritage Month**

1. Have a “Bring an Elder to School” day
2. Make fry bread
3. Start a basketry project
4. Create felt button blankets
5. Watch Reel Injun
6. Arrange a tour of the Arctic Studies Center
7. Learn denim
8. Organize a regalia fashion show
9. Do soapstone carving with soap
10. Introduce loom beading
11. Tell stories with story knives
12. Learn about calendar sticks
13. Make Eskimo yo-yos
14. Illustrate a traditional Alaska Native story with watercolor, colored pencil, pastel, or any medium really
15. Go through Title VII’s Elizabeth Peratrovich Playlist
16. Explain who Elizabeth Peratrovich is and what she did for Alaska
17. Create Yup’ik masks
18. Learn about Alaska Native values
19. Bring in muktuk (yum!)
20. Make dance fans
21. Ask a parent to come in and talk about their heritage
22. Read *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*
23. Draw Alaska Native Language maps
24. Draft an AFN Resolution
25. Discuss Native American Portrayals in Twilight
26. Create beaded Athabascan necklaces
27. Switch out your math curriculum for Math in a Cultural Context
28. Learn how to drum
29. Make mukluks
30. Skype with students in a rural school
31. Introduce your students to the Native Youth Olympics and try out some of the games
32. Borrow a Title VII iPod cart
33. Check out Title VII’s Resource Library on Shelfari
34. Sew doll-size kuspuk
35. Ask students to interview someone who is Alaska Native or American Indian
36. Rethink Thanksgiving and put on a new pageant
37. Learn to do string songs
38. Sew doll-size kuspuk
39. Sew full-size kuspuk
40. Learn Yup’ik
41. Teach about ANCSA
42. Go through ‘How Whaling Began for the Inupiaq People’
43. Arrange a Shavila Assembly
44. Discuss Native stereotypes in popular culture
45. Correspond with pen pals in rural Alaska
46. Learn a Native word a day
47. Watch and critique Nanook of the North
48. Learn how to draw in Southeast style, a la Franz Boas
49. Create Tlingit dance paddles
50. Make birch bark baskets
51. Go snowshoeing
52. Learn about geometry and Yup’ik navigation techniques
53. Draw graphic novels for an Alaska Native story
54. Learn Eskimo dancing
55. Create family trees
56. Go strolling through the school Slaviq style
57. Discuss global warming and how it affects rural Alaska
58. Play Title VII’s Moieties Game
59. Discuss the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
60. Make counting cords
61. Have a potluck with traditional foods
62. Explore language and migration with the Michael Krauss language map
63. Organize talking circles
64. Practice spear throwing
65. Watch *Qalmaili: Why White People Are Funny* (if it makes you uncomfortable, talk about why)
66. Have a discussion about Native American mascots
67. Ask someone who speaks Inupiaq to read the bilingual graphic novel *Adventures in Trading*
68. Have students do a Thanksgiving simulation
69. Create a family tree
70. Have students learn more about a corporation
71. Go berry picking
72. Investigate the culture of an indigenous people from another continent
73. Have a "kuspuk day": everyone wears a kuspuk to school
74. Critique Barbara Lavalle’s artwork
75. Visit a Native art gallery
76. Request a kit from the Anchorage Museum
77. Make Aleut hats
78. Cook with ulus
79. Learn about and use resources from the National Museum of the American Indian
80. Introduce students to the Rose Urban Rural Exchange
81. Ask students to share their heritage
82. Learn about subsistence rights and what they mean
83. Make a timeline of Alaska Native history
84. Have students draw a mural on a school wall that relates to Alaska Native culture
85. Partner on a project with the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program
86. Learn about Eyak and take part in ‘Eyak Yak’ to help keep the language alive
87. Read Alaska Native or American Indian poetry
88. Have students participate in an outside cultural activity that is completely new to them
89. Learn about Berangia
90. Use Alaska Native history and culture as a creative writing prompt
91. Invite a speaker from UAA’s Native Studies Department
92. Synthesize Native ways of knowing and modern science
93. Learn about traditional healing
94. Partner on a project with the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School
95. Tour the Alaska Native Heritage Center
96. Watch Smoke Signals
97. Introduce students to the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis
98. Introduce ethnomathematics (really, it’s fun!)
99. Invite a dance group to an assembly
100. Explain what “Eskimo” really means
101. Celebrate diversity