



Celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day!

What is Indigenous Peoples' Day?

- A newer holiday focused on teaching an accurate and complete narrative on the American Indians - it celebrates and honors their history and culture.

Does it replace Columbus Day?

- Many states have stopped recognizing and celebrating the Italian explorer Columbus because of the violence, pain, and suffering the indigenous peoples endured from explorers - whether through their policies, legacies, or practices towards the people.

When did people start celebrating the new holiday?

- In 1977, United Nations International Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Populations in the Americas proposed Indigenous Peoples' Day should replace Columbus Day. In 1990, South Dakota became the first state to rename the holiday followed by local towns, cities, and states.
- The Town of Dumfries officially recognizes and celebrates Indigenous Peoples' Day!

How can I respectfully celebrate too?

- You could plant a native plant. Copy/paste this link to learn about wildflowers: <https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/>
- Read stories from an indigenous author.
- Attend an online celebration, program, or webinar. You can join one today, 10/12/2020, @ 1:00 pm. (<https://nmai.brand.live/c/indigenouspeoplesday>)
- Teach an accurate and complete narrative. Visit museums and learn more!

Thanks to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian for the information and resources!



Oneida Indian Nation

The Legend of the No Face Doll

The Haudenosaunee people respect what they call the sustainers of life, the Three Sisters – Corn, Beans and Squash. The Corn Spirit was so thrilled to be one of the sustainers of life that she asked the Great Spirit if there was anything more that she could do for her people. The Great Spirit told her that a doll could be formed from her husk. So she made the doll from her husk and gave the doll a beautiful face. Then, the doll went from village to village and played with the children.

Everywhere she went everyone kept telling her how beautiful she was. So, it wasn't long before she became conceited. The Great Spirit called to her. But, before she went into the Great Spirit's lodge she looked into a pool of water to admire herself. The Great Spirit talked to her and told her that if she kept thinking that she was better than everyone else a terrible punishment would come upon her, but he wouldn't tell her what it would be. So, again the doll went from village to village playing with the children and again everyone kept telling her how beautiful she was.

It wasn't long before she became conceited again. The Great Spirit called her and once again she looked into the pool of water to admire herself before going into the lodge. Upon entering, the Great Spirit said to her: "I have given you one warning, now a great punishment will come upon you." But he still wouldn't tell her what it was. When she left the lodge, she again looked into the pool of water to admire herself, but this time she didn't have a face. The Great Spirit had taken it away.

Since that time, the Haudenosaunee people do not put a face on their corn husk dolls. This is to remind people, never to think that they are better than anyone else or a great punishment will fall upon them.

Thanks to: Oneida Indian Nation for sharing this story online! Learn more here: <https://www.oneidaindiannation.com/>

Make a Corn Husk Doll!

Source: Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose

1. Layer 4 corn husks on top of each other. You may need to soak them in warm water to soften them.
2. Tie at the top inch with a raffia string, tightly knotted.
3. Take 2 husks on each side and flip inside out so the knot is now inside.
4. To make a head, tie a raffia string about an inch below the rounded top formed by the knot hidden underneath. The raffia tie becomes the doll's neck.
5. To make arms, fold one new corn husk in half length-wise and roll up, (Narrower corn husks work best and roll with the grain of the husk rather than against the grain). Tie each end with a strand of raffia.
6. Place the arms between 2 of the corn husks inside the corn husk body. Slide the arms up as high as they will go up toward the neck tie.
7. With a raffia string, tie a waist below the arms. Tie it tightly enough to firmly hold the arms in place.

