

North American Indian Circulating Kits Available

from the Resource Center
Children's Museum, Boston

Plains Indian Loan Box

(\$5 for two weeks)

A sampler of the kinds of artifacts used when Plains Indians peoples lived as buffalo hunters (beaded and quilled pouches, stone tools, a pipe, moccasins). There are also two participatory activities (making pemmican, moccasin game) and some materials that describe the contact and conflict between the Plains peoples and the United States, both historically and at present (Sitting Bull's speeches, Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee, Custer's Last Battle, and Akwesasne Notes).

Northwest Coast Loan Box

(\$5 for two weeks)

A sampler of artifacts from traditional 19th century Northwest Coast culture (halibut hook, horn spoon, totem pole, baskets, dentalium necklace). Illustrated booklets describe the use and significance of the artifacts included in each kit. The box also contains instructions for playing two traditional games (the Dice Game and the Hand Game). Totem pole legends are included in record and book form.

Indian People of Southern New England MATCH Box (\$30 for two wks.)

An in-depth look at the material culture, world view, and social life of Algonquin people in Southern New England at the time of Pilgrim contact. Simple, authentic activities (setting a trap, scraping a skin, trying on clothing, grinding corn, painting designs on leather) encourage children to use materials in an Indian way. Stories and a play (with scripts) based on both oral traditions and recorded history introduce the children to Indian world view and social life. A few materials point out American Indian concerns and activities in New England today (disruptive stereotypes, contemporary photographs, recent speeches by native Americans).

Algonquin Culture Mini-MATCH Box

(\$15 for two weeks)

A series of topical exhibits containing artifacts and coordinated booklets that can be easily set up on any table or flat surface. These exhibits cover the range of Algonquin Indian material culture in Southern New England as it existed

four hundred years ago (fishing, hunting, foods, gardening, the wigwam, making clothing). A few participatory activities (grinding corn, scraping skins, painting with hematite, drilling a bead, awl punching) allow children to use materials in an Indian way.

Hopi Culture Mini-MATCH Box (\$15 for two weeks)

Rather than try to present Hopi life in its entirety, this kit introduces the Hopi Kachinas and describes how they are interwoven into Hopi community life today. The focal point of the kit is an illustrated storybook that describes, in simple prose, the "Going Home Dance of the Kachinas" as seen through the eyes of non-Indian observers. At appropriate points in the story, there are suggested activity breaks that encourage children to become more familiar with and use appropriately Hopi materials alluded to in the story (piki bread, kachina dolls and gifts, rattles and rasps, a clay pot, a wicker basket, hair ties). Supplementary audio-visual materials (maps, books, record, card game) also support the activity breaks.

(3.a)

American Indian Games Discovery Kit (\$5 for two weeks)

All the materials needed to play two authentic American Indian games, Ring and Pin and The Bowl Game, as they were and are played by native Americans in New England. Photographs illustrate how varying forms of Ring and Pin were created by other American Indian nations. Supplementary materials refer to contemporary life in New England (Land of The Four Directions) and elsewhere (Akwesasne Notes).

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Resource Center Members may also request a specific combination of artifacts from the Children's Museum's extensive North American Indian collection. For information on membership call the Resource Center at 522-4800.

