



**Explore the Native American culture with these activities picked just for you!**

**Cornhusk dolls:** A traditional toy in the Native American culture is the cornhusk dolls. These dolls could be made easily by Native American children. You can give your child the materials to do the same. Soak 5 husks in warm water and then bloat them with paper towels. Stack 4 husks on top of each other and tie a piece of twine about two inches from the top to make the doll's head. Stick the last husk in between the first 4 husks (creating a cross) and tie a piece of twine right below it, making the arms and the skirt. Your child can help you hold the husks in place as you are tying them. Now, bring out some scrap material, felt, string, yarn or any other materials you have around the house and let your child glue on some pretty clothes for their cornhusk doll!

**Native American drum:** Music has great meaning in the Native American culture. The drum is one of the most well-known instruments. Cover an empty oatmeal container with white paper. You can help your child glue on the paper or tape the seams together when the container is covered. Give your child watercolor paints to decorate the drum however they like. They may also want to glue on some pompom balls. While your child is decorating the drum, take 3 long pieces of yarn and braid them. Then, poke a hole on each side of the container and put each end of the string into the holes and tie them together inside the container. Put the lid on the container and let your child put the braided yarn around their neck so the drum hangs down to their waist and they can now play their drum!

**Talking Sticks:** Some Native American tribes use talking sticks to designate who in the group should be talking while the others listen. Help your child look for a long stick. Let them paint the stick with acrylic paints and then add any of these items- feathers, colored tape, fabric scraps, buttons, pipe cleaners, etc.- to personalize their stick. You can start a tradition with your own family that whomever is holding the talking stick gets to speak and your other family members have to listen!

