

## Final Thoughts

**A**s with all our educational materials, this poster incorporates some fundamental concepts about Native cultures, which have too often been obscured by stereotypes and misconceptions. We have found it helpful to keep the following ideas at the forefront of any discussion of Native topics.

1. American Indians are still here, living modern lives. Even as contemporary people, many American Indians still retain strong connections to their specific traditions.
2. American Indian cultures and languages are intimately tied to the land.
3. Worldviews and perspectives of American Indians may be very different from those of non-Indian students. American Indians' traditional worldviews are often grounded in a recognition of the interrelationship among humans, animals, plants, water, winds, sky, and earth.
4. Indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere are diverse in their languages, cultures, values, and beliefs. There is no such thing as one, single Native American culture.
5. American Indian cultures have always been dynamic—adapting and changing.
6. Many traditional Native values and practices are relevant to issues of worldwide importance today, such as care of the earth.

## RESOURCES

Images, text, and other materials related to this poster

[www.nmai.si.edu/education/thanksgiving](http://www.nmai.si.edu/education/thanksgiving)

Other educational materials from the National Museum of the American Indian [www.nmai.si.edu/education](http://www.nmai.si.edu/education)

InterTribal Bison Cooperative [www.itbcbison.com](http://www.itbcbison.com)

Tohono O'odham Community Action [www.tocaonline.org](http://www.tocaonline.org)

National Public Radio [www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org)

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On the front cover, clockwise from top left:

- Many varieties of corn have been developed and used by Native peoples throughout the Americas. Courtesy of the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service
- Children at TOCA farm with squash. Courtesy of Tohono O'odham Community Action
- White and brown tepary beans with traditional Tohono O'odham baskets. Photo courtesy of Tohono O'odham Community Action
- Leonard Two Eagle, manager of the Rosebud Sioux's bison herd. "Shelly" sticks out her tongue for petting, the only sign of domestication that a bison offers. It should be remembered that approaching these animals can be dangerous. Photograph by Matt Ross. Originally published in *Indian Country Today*. Courtesy of the photographer

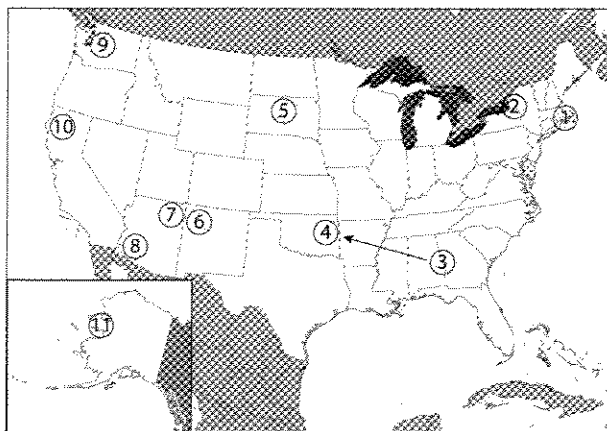
## SOURCES CITED

Lopez, Daniel, Tristan Reader, and Paul Buseck. *Community Attitudes Toward Traditional Tohono O'odham Foods*. Tohono O'odham Community Action and Tohono O'odham Community College, 2002.

Cajete, Greg. *A People's Ecology: Explorations in Sustainable Living*. Clear Light Publishers, 1999.

Stokes, John and Kanawahienton David Benedict (Turtle Clan/Mohawk). *Thanksgiving Address: Greetings to the Natural World*. Six Nations Indian Museum and The Tracking Project, 1993.

General Location of American Indian Communities Discussed in This Poster



Communities, east to west:

1. Wampanoag
2. Haudenosaunee (Iroquois)
3. Muscogee  
—original homelands
4. Muscogee  
—after removal
5. Lakota
6. Picuris & Santa Clara
7. Diné (Navajo)
8. Tohono O'odham
9. Yakama
10. Hupa
11. Inupiaq



Phoye Tsay Brascoupe, dog Rascal, Povi Brascoupe, and Clayton Brascoupe pick corn at Four Sisters Farm, Tesuque Pueblo, New Mexico. Courtesy of Clayton Brascoupe