

# CENTRAL QUEENS ACADEMY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES



### IN THIS ISSUE

- An Introduction to the Munsee Lenape Tribe
- What are we learning?
- Community Events
- Reader's Spotlight
- #whyCQA
- What's Happening at CQA?
- Tip Corner
- Community Resources

### IN HONOR OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

BY STEPHANIE MARCHETTI AND  
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This Monday, October 11th is Indigenous People's Day. This national holiday commemorates Native Americans and celebrates their customs, culture, and contributions to America. On this day we also recognize the unfair treatment of Native Americans upon the arrival of European explorers to America. We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Munsee Lenape Nation.

Here is some interesting information about the Munsee Lenape Nation.

#### Language

The Munsee Lenape tribe spoke Munsee which is an Algonquian language. Munsee means "from a rocky land." Here are some Munsee words you can learn: he (pronounced hey) is a friendly greeting. Anushiik means thank you.

#### Shelter

The Munsee Lenape lived in wigwams. Wigwams are small, temporary domed houses, usually 8-10 feet tall. Men tribe members were responsible for building the structure of the wigwam. Women were in charge of covering the frame, usually with birchbark.

#### Culture

The men in the Munsee Lenape tribe were hunters.



*A wigwam is a temporary shelter used by many tribes. It is usually made from tree parts.*



The women were farmers. The Munsee Lenape grew corn, beans and squash, which they referred to as "the three sisters." They were known for their bead and basket art. The Munsees also crafted wampum out of purple and white beads. Wampum beads could be used as currency. The beads on the wampum often told the story of a person's family. The Munsee Lenape's main instruments were drums and flutes made out of wood.

### Today

Many of the Munsee Lenape were forced to leave their homes in the 1700s. Most of them went to Canada, where they still live today. Others moved west, to Wisconsin or joined other relative tribes like the Lenni Lenape.



## WHAT ARE WE LEARNING?

### Kindergarten

In literacy, we are learning all of our letter names and sounds. We are also becoming experts on toys and play.

In math, we are learning about combinations of 5 and 10. In science, we are learning about what plants and animals need to survive.

### First Grade

First graders are learning more about tools and work in literacy. We are also learning about phonics so we can sound out bigger words. In math, we are working on counting in groups of 5s and 10s. In science, we are learning about animals and plants and how they defend themselves.

### Social Studies

In both Kindergarten and First Grade we are doing a unit on Me and Family. We are reading books and doing projects to get to know themselves and their identity. We are having so much fun!

## Community Events

**2 day Indigenous People's Day Celebration** at Randall's Island Park

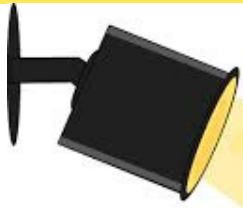
- **Sunday** October 10 from 11am-9pm ( performance, Music, Vending, food, spoken words, guess speaker
- **Monday** October 11 from 7am-2pm ( sunrise ceremony, Water Ceremony and guess speaker, artist evening concert)

**Indigenous People's Day 2021--** Monday, October 11th, 8am- 6PM at Queens Botanical Garden.

**Queens County Farm Museum Free Admission Sunday--** Oct 10, 10 AM – 5 PM at 73-50 Little Neck Pkwy, Queens, NY

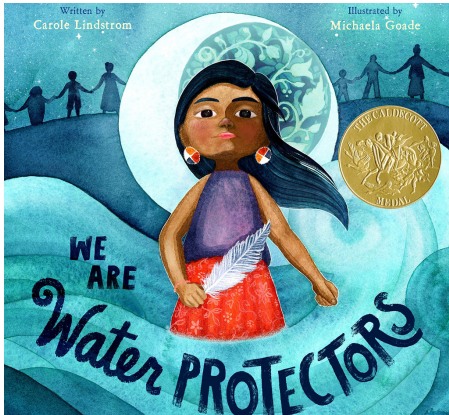
**Shocktoberfest** (filled with many fun activities including a pumpkin patch, arts and crafts, music, carnival games, and much more)- October 24th, 12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. at Playground for All Children (in Flushing Meadows Corona Park), Queens

**Halloween Festival at Juniper Valley Park-** October 30th, 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. at Juniper Boulevard South and 80th Street (in Juniper Valley Park), Queens

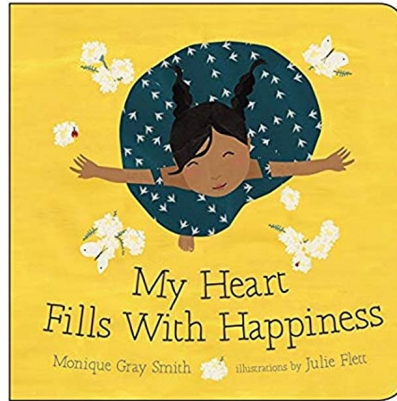


# Reader's Spotlight

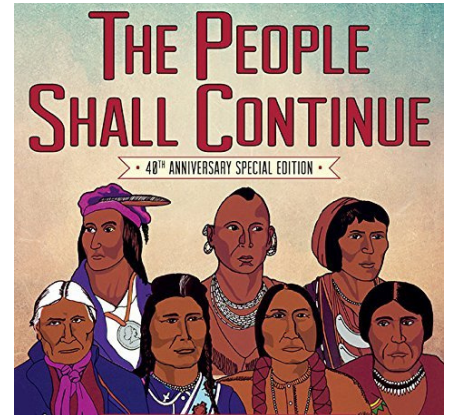
**Not sure what to read next?** Take a look at these picks. All of these books are available at your local library.



**We are Water Protectors**  
by Carole Lindstrom



**My Heart Fills with Happiness**  
by Monique Gray Smith



**The People Shall Continue**  
by Simon J. Ortiz

## #WhyCQA



*"As a special education coordinator I wanted to be part of a school that takes the time to get to know each scholar both as a learner and as a person. I feel that it is important to celebrate the diversity of the community and make sure that families feel involved in their child's education. The leadership team and every staff member is truly dedicated to making sure scholars have the best learning experience and are supported educationally as well as emotionally, are valued, safe, and seen as an individual. That is why I chose CQA."*

**Susan Miller**  
Special Education Coordinator



# What's Happening at CQA?

- 10/11 No School - Indigenous People's Day
- 10/29 Spirit Day: Book Character Day- Your scholar should dress as their favorite book character!
- 11/11 No School - Veteran's Day
- 11/19 Spirit Day: Flannel Friday - Your scholar should come dressed in their favorite fall flannel!
- 11/22-11/24 Parent Teacher Conferences - More information coming soon!

## Tip Corner

Here are some ideas for helping your scholar in math:

- Count with your scholar from 1-100 by 1s.
- Ask your scholar to count objects in the house:
  - How many forks are there?
  - How many toys do you have?
  - How many books are on the shelf?
- Give your scholar problems to solve. Examples are:
  - I had 16 cookies. Then I ate 5 of them. How many cookies do I have now?
  - John had 13 buttons. Then he found 18 more. How many buttons does he have now?
- When your scholar gives you an answer, always ask, "how do you know?"

## Community Resources

- NYC Well – 1-888-NYC-WELL (1-888-692-9355) -- NYC Well is free, confidential mental health support. Speak to a counselor via phone, text, or chat and get access to mental health and substance use services, in more than 200 languages, 24/7/365.
- SNAP benefits- <https://mybenefits.ny.gov/mybenefits/begin>
- Immigration—legal aid society, Immigration Law Unit Helpline: 844-955-3425. <https://legalaidnyc.org/get-help/immigration-deportation/>
- NYC Family Justice Center- address 126-02 82nd Avenue Kew Gardens, NY 11415 718-575-4545
- Individual and family counseling- The Child Center of NY <https://childcenterny.org/behavioral-health/>
- Free Psychological, Psychosocial, and Autism Assessments-- <https://www.yai.org/services/free-psychological-psychosocial-and-autism-assessments>