READING RESOURCES
FOR
SOUTHEAST ALASKA
TRIBAL CHILDREN,
YOUTH AND FAMILIES
Special thanks go to Child Welfare Team staff, Dr. Katy Spangler, UAS and the Sealaska Heritage Institute staff who developed the list — Gloria Jack, Susetna King, Jerene (Jeri) Museth, and Marilyn Doyle.
DEAR FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS
AND LEGAL GUARDIANS.

On behalf of the Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) we would like to share some resources with you. We created this listing of books that relate to Northwest Coast tribes and cultures with the hope that you might find these books in your local library or bookstore and share them with your children and youth. We hope that by reading and talking about these books you and your family will learn more about the cultural connections you have with the Tlingit and Haida tribes. The list is by no means complete. Our greatest hope is that you will not limit yourself to the list contained in this booklet, but will seek out other resources over time.

If you have other thoughts for what might help you further your knowledge and understanding of the Tlingit and Haida people, the Child Welfare Team at Central Council welcomes your ideas at any time.

Sincerely,

CHILD WELFARE TEAM 2004

TRIBAL FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT
CENTRAL COUNCIL TLINGIT Haida INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
320 W. Willoughby Avenue, Suite 300
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907-463-7169)
Shamans and Kushetakas: North Coast Tales of the Supernatural
Author: Beck, Mary • Illustrator: Oliver, Martin
ISBN: 0-882404-06-7
Mythical legends of Tlingit and Haida Indians that reflect their religion, traditions and values. Mary Beck lives in Ketchikan, Alaska as a writer and teacher.

Raven's Light
Author: Shetterly, Susan H. • Illustrator: Shetterly, Robert
ISBN: 0-689316-29-1
NY: Atheneum. 1991
A retelling of Tlingit, Haidak Kwakiutl and Tsimshian legends of how Raven stole the sun and brought it to the earth – the sun for the day and the moon for the night.

Images From the Inside Passage—An Alaskan Portrait by Winter and Pond
Author: Wyatt, Victoria
ISBN: 0-295968-12-5
Seattle, Washington: University of Washington. 1989 (may be out of print)
Collection of black and white photographs taken by Lloyd Winter and E. Percy Pond during the late 1800 and early 1900s. Tlingit and Haida portraits, villages, potlatches, and ceremonial art are included.

The Day Sun Was Stolen
Author: Oliviero, Jamie • Illustrator: Hitchcock, Sharon
ISBN: 0-786800-31-3
NY: Hyperion Press. 1995
In a Haida story related to the Raven Steals the Light stories, this time Bear steals the sun. Raven tricks Bear by shaving off his fur. When Bear gets cold, he returns the sun, but learns to wear heavy fur in the winter and lighter fur in the summer. All the other animals follow suit. Bold illustrations with Haida designs.

The Trouble with Adventurers
Author: Harris, Christie • Illustrator: Tait, Douglas
ISBN: 0-689309-00-7
Old Tappan, New Jersey: MacMillan. 1982
Collection of six stories relating to encounters of Haida and Tsimshian adventurers along with the adventures of a young Englishman captured by the Indians. Good reading.

The Tlingit
Author: Osinski, Alice
ISBN: 0-516411-89-6
Danbury, Connecticut: Children’s Press. 1990
A good information book on the Tlingit tribe, with modern and historical photographs and a clear text.
The Wave of the Sea-Wolf
Author: Wisiewski, David
Boston, Massachusetts: Clarion. 1999
This story combines Tlingit myth and historical account of the Indian's first encounter with Europeans. The tale is centered around Chokeen, a Tlingit princess who is rescued from drowning by a guardian spirit. Sea-Wolf gives her powers to call on a great wave to save her people from threatening strangers. The intricate paper cut illustrations are photographed to give a 3-D effect.

How Raven Brought Light to People
Author: Dixon, Ann • Illustrator: Watts, James
ISBN: 0-689505-36-1
This classic Northwest Coast Indian tale tells how Raven gives the stars, moon, and sun to the people of the world by tricking the great chief who keeps them hidden in three boxes. This simple narrative style bespeaks traditional storytelling, and is based on Tlingit folklore.

Kahtahah: A Tlingit Girl
Author: Paul, Frances Lackey • Illustrator: Muñoz, Rie
Portland, Oregon: Alaska Northwest Publishing. 1976
This classic work written in the late 1930s details ordinary life and folklore of the Tlingits around Juneau in the late 19th century. Munoz's vintage monochromatic illustrations add charm to this historically valuable collection.

INTERMEDIATE (Grades 3-6)

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A retelling of Tlingit, Haidak Kwakiutl and Tsimshian legends of how Raven stole the sun and brought it to the earth - the sun for the day and the moon for the night.
A Cycle of Myths: Indian Myths from Southeast Alaska
Author: Smelcer, John  Illustrator: Vienneau, Larry
ISBN: 0-963400-02-9
Chugiak, Alaska: Salmon River Press. 1993
Several stories from Eyak, Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian mythology are collected in this tidy little book. Background information on each Native group provides a context. Many popular stories such as "Raven Steals the Sun" and "The Loon's Necklace" are included.

Images From the Inside Passage- An Alaskan Portrait by Winter and Pond
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Seattle, Washington: University of Washington. 1989 (may be out of print)
Collection of black and white photographs taken by Lloyd Winter and E. Percy Pond during the late 1800 and early 1900s. Tlingit and Haida portraits, villages, potlatches, and ceremonial art are included.

Learning by Designing: Pacific Northwest Coast Native Indian Art, vol. 2
Author: Gilbert, Jan & Karen Clark  Illustrator: Gilbert, Jim
ISBN: 0-969279-4-7
Union Bay, B.C.: Raven Press. 2002
A very detailed art activity book from Canada, which includes design theory, projects and cultural context.

S'gana the Black Whale
Author: Stauffacher, Sue
ISBN: 0-882403-96-6
While spending the summer with his grandparents in Wisconsin, 12 year old Derek discovers his Haida Indian heritage, which draws him to a distressed black and white killer whale at a local marine park. A charming modern story, it is easy and enjoyable to read.

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Children of the Tlingit
Author: Staub, Frank
ISBN: 1-575053 -33-0
Minneapolis, Minnesota: Carolrhoda. 1998
Portraits of Tlingit children in various communities in Southeast Alaska. The color photographs show them in various activities from traditional to modern.

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Danbury, Connecticut: Children’s Press. 1990
A good information book on the Tlingit tribe, with modern and historical photographs and a clear text.

A Story to Tell: Traditions of a Tlingit Community
Author: Nichols, Richard • Illustrator: Kraus, D. Bambi
ISBN: 0-822526-61-1
Minneapolis, Minnesota: Lerner. 1997
An intimate view of life in Kake, as seen through the eyes of the eleven year old granddaughter of the photographer’s mother. Great photographs show an unsentimental portrait of the community. Written by a Native American, this book is part of a series of picture books on modern Native American life.

The Bentwood Box
Author: McNutt, Nan
Illustrators: Osawa, Yasu and Nathan Jackson
ISBN: 0-961453-47-8
A more sophisticated activity book that demonstrates the construction of Tlingit storage boxes. Young people can make one out of cardboard, decorated with traditional designs.

The Raven and the Totem: Traditional Alaska Native Myths and Tales
Author: Smelcer, John
Illustrators: Fienneau, Larry & Susie Bevens
ISBN: 0-963400-00-2
Chuglaik, Alaska: Salmon Run Press. 1992
A brief comment introduces each of the short Tlingit, Yup’ik and Athabaskan folktales collected here and ties it to the other tales. An excellent resource book.
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Tlingit Tales: Potlatch and Totem Poles
Author: Harris, Lorie K.  •  Illustrator: Mandel, Dorothy
Happy Camp, California: Naturegraph Publishers. 1985
A collection of eight Tlingit legends as told by Robert Zuboff, head of the Beaver clan of Angoon. This collection includes a short chapter on Tlingit people and their legends.

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Heroes and Heroines in Tlingit-Haida Legend
Author: Beck, Mary  •  Illustrator: DeWitt, Nancy
ISBN: 0-882403-34-6
These well written, vivid stories recount the escapades of famous heroes and heroines in the Tlingit and Haida traditions.

How Raven Stole the Sun (Tales of the People)
Author: Williams, Mary
ISBN: 0789201631
Publication information: Abbeville Press. 2003
A beautifully illustrated version of the traditional legend about Raven. It is recommended by the Smithsonian as one of the Tales of the People series about Native Americans.
Shamans and Kushtakas: North Coast Tales of the Supernatural
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The War Canoe
Author: Bryson, Jamie S.
ISBN: 0-882403-68-0
Young Mickey Church, a Tlingit from Wrangell, is inspired by the new history teacher who helps him discover his proud heritage. With the help of older friends, Mickey builds a war canoe and in the process learns how to believe in himself and his future. An in spring young adult tale.

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ISBN: 0-961453-47-8
A more sophisticated activity book that demonstrates the construction of Tlingit storage boxes. Young people can make one out of cardboard, decorated with traditional designs.

Tlingit Moon and Tide Teaching Resource
Author: Garza, Dolly
Fairbanks, Alaska: University of Alaska. 1999
A teaching guide for study of the moon and tidal cycles in the context of Tlingit culture. The many, sometimes sophisticated activities incorporate folklore, language and art into Native knowledge of science and ecology.
The Raven and the Totem: Traditional Alaska Native Myths and Tales
Author: Smelcer, John
Illustrators: Fieneau, Larry & Susie Bevens
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A collection of eight Tlingit legends as told by Robert Zuboff, head of the Beaver clan of Angoon. This collection includes a short chapter on Tlingit people and their legends.

Tales from the Four Winds of the North
Author: DeArmond, Dale
ISBN: 0-964199-83-1
Juneau, Alaska: Lapcat Publications. 1996
Four long tales, one each from Aleut, Tlingit, Athabaskan and Eskimo cultures, are told in simple prose, and illustrated with DeArmond's noted wood engravings.
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