

Dear Families,

As you know November is the month that we learn about and discuss Native Americans and we focus on our families' history and traditions. As a part of this, the third grade would like to create class totem poles. These are not going to be the traditional totem poles that Native Americans made where they carve wood into animals' faces to signify something about their tribe. Instead, we would like each student to create a piece of the totem pole that would represent their family's heritage and traditions. Here is your chance to share with everyone about the things that make your family special! This project is to be done at home with your family and will be returned to school by Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

The project guidelines are as follows:

- You need to use a tissue box or a small to medium sized shoe box (Please no other boxes bigger than these because they won't fit once stacked upon each other)
- Decorate only the sides of the box. Do not decorate the top or bottom because the boxes will be stacked on top of each other and we wouldn't want to cover up any decoration on top or bottom.
- Your last name must be written on one of the sides (It is a family activity so last names will be used to represent each student)
- All work; writing, drawings, etc. put onto the box must be neat and legible. These are going to be displayed in the hallway for everyone to see so you want others to be able to read what's on it.

Here are some ideas to help guide you in decorating your child's box:

- Decorate your box with your family's hobbies, interests, any favorites (sports, movies, activities, games, songs, etc.)
  - Include your family's heritage (colors, flags, maps, etc.)
  - Include any family traditions you may do the month of November
- Include family photos or maybe a diary entry about a tradition your family has during this time of year that is fun and memorable to you.

Be creative with your work! Use lots of different materials (feathers, glitter, scrap book paper, beads, sequins, pom-poms, yarn, buttons, foam etc.) to create that special something to your piece of the totem pole. Use your imagination and have fun!!

We look forward to seeing the completed projects and make them into a class totem pole that tells a story about all the student's in our classrooms!

Thank you parents for all your help and support this year, we wouldn't be this successful without you!



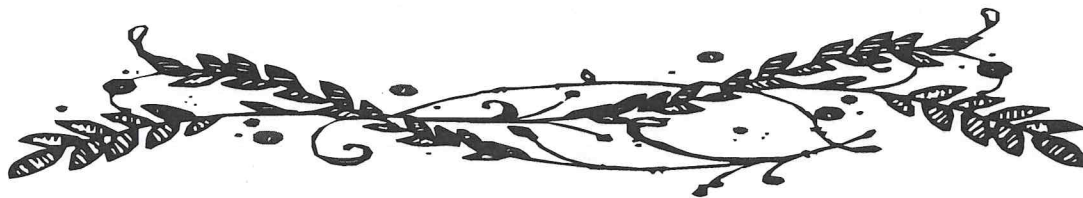
Thanks again and have fun!

Stuckey Third Grade



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Totem Pole Rubric

### Listening

\_\_\_\_/10 points (total)

comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### Speaking

\_\_\_\_/10 points (total)

comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### Totem Pole Requirements

\_\_\_\_/1 point (last name)

\_\_\_\_/1 point (family's hobbies, interests, favorites, etc.)

\_\_\_\_/1 point (family's heritage - colors, flags, maps, etc.)

\_\_\_\_/1 point (family traditions)

\_\_\_\_/1 point (family photos, diary entry, etc. about a tradition  
your family has during this time of year that is fun  
and memorable to you)

\_\_\_\_/5 points (TOTAL)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: \_\_\_\_\_



Presentation ____/10	Listening ____/10
<p>SL.3.1d Explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.</p> <p>SL.3.6 Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.</p> <p>SL.3.(4-6) Students should know and be able to speak in complete sentences when reporting on a topic, story, or experience as well as when creating audio recordings of stories or poems.</p> <p>SL.3.4 Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.</p> <p>SL.3.1b Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).</p>	<p>SL.3.1c Ask questions to check understanding of information presented, stay on topic, and link their comments to the remarks of others.</p> <p>SL.3.3 Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.</p> <p>SL.3.1b Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., gaining the floor in respectful ways, listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).</p>

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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