

# NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATION FOR ALL RESOURCES

Partnership of IllumiNative and the National Indian Education Association



ILLUMINATIVE



Grade Level

**PK-2**

Subject

**English  
Art**

Lesson Title

**Shingebiss: A Story of  
Resilience**

**Activity Description:** In this activity, students will learn about Shingebiss: A Chippewa Indian Tale that discusses the resilience, fearlessness and courage of small being that won't see winter as his enemy. Students will then have the opportunity to write their own stories of times they were fearless or resilient, and what it meant to them to overcome that journey.

## MATERIALS NEEDED

- ["Shingebiss: A Chippewa Indian Tale Story Read Aloud"](#)
- ["The Shingebiss Song"](#)
- Paper
- Stapler
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Scissors

## STEPS

This activity is for children to do with a person from the family or community.

1. Listen to the [Shingebiss Story](#) with your child.
2. You may also consider singing [The Shingebiss Song](#) along with your child after the story, and acting out different parts of the story.

### Putting Your Book Together

1. Take a stack of printer paper and lay it on top of a single piece of construction paper.
2. Fold all of the pages in half taking the left side of the pages and folding them over to the right side (along a vertical axis) to make a booklet.
3. Staple the pages together along the crease, at the top of the booklet, in the middle of the booklet, and at the bottom of the booklet.

### Writing Your Story about Fearlessness

1. Explain to your child that they are going to make their own book about a time in their life when they were fearless (resilient)
  - a. Don't forget to encourage them to draw pictures!
2. When completed, have your child read their books aloud to you and/or family members.

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## HELPFUL TIPS

**Parents and caregivers:** This is an opportunity for your child to better understand the concept of resilience -- a concept that is talked about when we refer to Native students, families, and communities overcoming trauma and a traumatic history -- by relating it to times in their lives that they might have been fearless and courageous.

- While listening to the story, ask your child what parts of the story might have been frightening to Shingebiss, and how he overcame that fear, and pushed forward in the winter.
- Ask your child what they think it means to be resilient or fearless, and prompt them to remember a time in their lives when they were fearless. Perhaps that might even be right now.
- When creating the book encourage your child to remember:
  - How they might have felt during this time in their lives
  - Why they might have been afraid at first
  - How they overcame that fear.

## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

**Families and Educators:** This activity may open other talking points around resilience and/or fearlessness in your own lives. Your child may want to hear about a time you were fearless or resilient. This can also start a conversation about what is currently happening now during COVID-19, and is a great opportunity to talk about resilience and fearlessness with your child.

- Consider how you can start a conversation about your resilience by sharing your own story.
- [Access this guide for advice](#) on how to talk to your children about COVID-19.
- [Read this guide](#) for tips on talking to children and youth after traumatic events - such as COVID-19.

### Activity Resource Links:

- "Shingebiss: A Chippewa Indian Tale Story Read Aloud": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5jsboV2Cn8>
- "The Shingebiss Song": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2G4zSaSLv0>
- Talking to Children about Coronavirus (COVID-19): [https://www.aacap.org/App\\_Themes/AACAP/Docs/latest\\_news/2020/Coronavirus\\_COVID19\\_Children.pdf](https://www.aacap.org/App_Themes/AACAP/Docs/latest_news/2020/Coronavirus_COVID19_Children.pdf)
- Tips for Talking to Children and Youth After Traumatic Events. <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/tips-talking-to-children-after-traumatic-event.pdf>