

Tales from Third Grade: Choose Your Own Adventure!



Driving Question:

How can we use storytelling to learn and share about other communities, especially ones that are different from ours?

Content Summary:

Students will explore the diverse cultures and histories of California's Indigenous peoples through hands-on activities and mini projects. Using resources from the CKLA unit *"Native Americans: Regions & Cultures"* and the Social Studies unit *"American Indians in California,"* students will gain background knowledge about different tribes. They will compare and contrast three California tribes, examining their regions, natural resources, customs, and traditions. A special focus will be on storytelling, showing how each tribe used stories to teach lessons and preserve cultural knowledge. As a final project, students will create a *"Choose Your Own Adventure"* book to teach the Kinetic community about a California tribe, highlighting how the tribe used natural resources and storytelling to share knowledge and traditions.

Standards

- **CC 3.3.1:** Research the Indigenous peoples of California, including their regions, natural resources, customs, traditions, and contributions to their communities.
- **CC 3.3.3:** Explain how California tribes lived and developed over time, how individuals and families contributed to their communities, and how cultural practices and traditions have been preserved and passed down, using maps, photographs, oral histories, storytelling, and other primary sources.
- **W.3.3:** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events, using effective techniques, descriptive details, and clear sequences, including stories inspired by the traditions of Indigenous peoples.
- **RI.3.4:** Describe the relationship between a series of events, ideas, or steps in a text—such as historical events, cultural practices, or storytelling traditions—using language that shows time, sequence, and cause/effect.