**Materials Needed**

- "Fry Bread: A Native American Story" by Kevin Noble Maillard, Illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal
- Several pieces of construction paper and/or printing paper
- Stapler
- Pencil
- Crayons, colored pencils, and/or markers

**Steps**

This activity is for children to do with a person from the family or community, but it can also be done by the child alone.

Read "Fry Bread: A Native American Story" by Kevin Noble Maillard, Illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal with your child.

**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 Traditional Food Story**

1. Explain to your child that they are going to make their own book about a specific food or recipe that is meaningful to them—because it is part of their culture, a family tradition or some other meaning. They will think about all the aspects of that food, why it’s meaningful to them, and then create a short book about their selected food.
2. Don’t forget to encourage them to draw pictures!
3. When completed, have your child read their books aloud to you and/or family members.

For more resources, visit [www.IllumiNatives.org](http://www.IllumiNatives.org) or [www.NIEA.org](http://www.NIEA.org).
HELPFUL TIPS

Before reading the book
- Point out some of the cover art, and ask “What do you see on the cover of the book?
- What do you think the book might be about?”
- What have you learned about Native American people from stories you have read or seen in school?

During the reading of the book
- Ask your child a few questions about the pictures in the book, such as “what is making the sound while the fry break cooks?”

After the book reading
- Point out the tribes listed on page 21, and ask, “what tribes have you heard of before?”, and “what did you learn about those tribes?”
- Talk with your child about how frybread might be a part of everyday life and special occasions.
- Why do you think it is important to many Native American cultures?

After your child completes and reads aloud their own book
- Why is this food or recipe you are writing about important to your (our) family’s history, culture, or traditions?

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Families and Educators: This activity may open other talking points around the culture, traditions, and history of Native Americans, and potentially their own culture and identity as well.
- Consider how you can start a conversation about your own culture and identity by sharing your own story.

For additional resources on Native American cultures, consider these resources below:
- This book provides ideas and activities to young children for learning about Native Americans, including what to do, and what not to do.
- This resource shares tools and strategies for honoring and learning about Native American heritage month.
- You can browse NMAI’s Essential Understandings for in-depth guides on various tribal histories.

Your child may even want to make their own fry bread. This guide provides a recipe to make your own fry bread.

Activity Resource Links:
- Fry Bread Recipe: https://www.123homeschool4me.com/native-americans-southwest-tribes_33/
- NMAI’s Native Knowledge 360 guides on tribal histories: https://americanindian.si.edu/nk360/resources.csh.html
- “Fry Bread: A Native American Story”: https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781626727466

For more resources, visit www.IllumiNatives.org or www.NIEA.org.