

Cottage Grove  
Sentinel

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## Acorn Circle celebrates Native American culture

LANE COUNTY, Ore. - Join Singing Creek Educational Center (SCEC) at the Creswell Library on Thursday, October 5th at 3:30 pm for the kickoff celebration of their Acorn Circle: Native American Library Teaching Program. This exciting new program brings Native American culture and children's education to the Creswell, Cottage Grove and Springfield libraries this fall. Attendance is free and with dates throughout October and November at each library there is sure to be a session that fits your schedule.

Trained SCEC staff will lead these sessions for children aged 6 - 10 and provide supplies and instruction. Each class will include a book reading and craft project, utilizing curriculum from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR). Books include "Let's Go Eeling", "Mulak Man" and "Coyote and the Fish Trap." Teachers of grades one - three are encouraged to attend and get ideas about bringing these lessons into the classroom.

At the first session on October 5th, kids will be learning about the cultural importance of the Willamette Falls and eel hunting, learning to summarize the main idea of a story, and creating a small basket to take home. "This will be fun and educational for the kids," says Karen Rainsong, Executive Director of SCEC. "It's a creative way to bring this Native curriculum into libraries, and build partnerships and cultural bridges." SCEC will provide an additional cultural event at each library in November (coincides with Native American Heritage Month) with Deitrich Peters of the Grand Ronde Tribe. Mr. Peters has gra-

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ciously agreed to share elements of his regalia and will play flute music, talk about his culture, and take questions. SCEC Executive Director Karen Rainsong will bring items of Kalapuya material to share. The program is generously funded by the City of Cottage Grove, the Woodard Family Foundation, and participating libraries.

For more information including specific dates visit the Singing Creek Educational Center website [https://](https://www.singingcreekcenter.org/acorn-circle-native-american/)

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Singing Creek Educational Center is a non-profit organization with a mission to inspire children and families toward an appreciation of local history through hands-on learning. Our programs are fun and engaging while also encouraging critical thinking skills and learning about history from multiple perspectives. Our focus is Oregon history and nature appreciation.