

CODEBOOK

Reviewer's Name:

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Title of Book:

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Name of Author / Illustrator:

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Year of Publication:

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Number of Pages:

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List of Main Characters:

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Theme of the Book:

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Count the number of occurrences, give examples or comments noting the page number found for each section.

Characterization/Stereotyping

Characterization: A person marked by conspicuous, often peculiar traits.

Stereotyping: By assigning traditional and rigid roles or attributes to a group, instructional materials stereotype and limit the abilities and potential of that group.

1. Did the characters show characterization/stereotyping? Comments and examples

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2. Are women portrayed as an integral part of Native Societies? Comments and examples

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3. Were the “Indians” given ridiculous names, like “Little Chief” or “Many Moons”? Comments and explain

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4. Were Native people depicted as genuine individuals shown? Comments and examples

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5. Total number of times characterization/stereotyping was displayed in this book

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Language/Lexicon

Language: Form or style of verbal expression; the Native’s dialect cannot be presented as substandard English.

Lexicon: The vocabulary of a language, which is free from offensive or degrading vocabulary. (Stunted, stultified = to make look foolish or stupid (Webster, 1994, 715).

1. Did the characters show inappropriate language/lexicon? Comments and examples \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Does the dialect have a legitimate purpose, and does it avoid the stereotypical “Indian stilted language? Comments and examples  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Were the Indian people labeled as either friendly or unfriendly? Comments and examples  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Does the text contain offensive and degrading vocabulary used to describe the characters, their actions, their customs or their lifestyles? Comments and examples  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Total number of times inappropriate language/lexicon was displayed in this book  
\_\_\_\_\_

Historical Inaccuracy

Historical Inaccuracy: Is there more than one interpretation of an issue, situation, or group of people, such as the Native perspective of history and their contemporary life experiences.

1. Was the Indian culture respected, or is it presented as inferior to the white culture? Comments and examples

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2. Were the Native people shown as capable and competent in their own cultural ways as well as in the ways of the non-Indian world? Comments and examples

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3. Was there anything in this book that would embarrass or hurt a Native child? Comments and examples

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4. Does the author recognize the diversity of Indian cultures? Comments and examples

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5. Total number of times historical inaccuracies were displayed in this book \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Inauthenticity

Cultural Inauthenticity: Inaccurate portrayal of beliefs, characteristics, activities, fundamental values and behavior patterns unique to a particular group. Opinions are distinguished from facts, and show the diversity of the tribes.

1. Was there an ethnocentric Western focus on material objects, such as baskets, pottery, rugs? Comments and examples

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2. Was the Indian characters portrayed as individuals with their own thoughts, emotions, and philosophies? Comments and examples

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3. Was there some point when text focused on respect for Native peoples and understanding of the sophistication and complexity of their societies? Comments and examples

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4. Were there one or more positive role models with whom a Native child can identify? Comments and examples

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5. Total number of times Cultural authenticity was questioned in this book \_\_\_\_\_

Other

Were there other traits or values identified in the book, which were not among those specifically mentioned? List them and the page numbers

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Will children be able to relate to the characters in the text and illustrations?

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Would you recommend this book to a child? Explain

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Additional comments on the book:

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