

Saltpie

A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

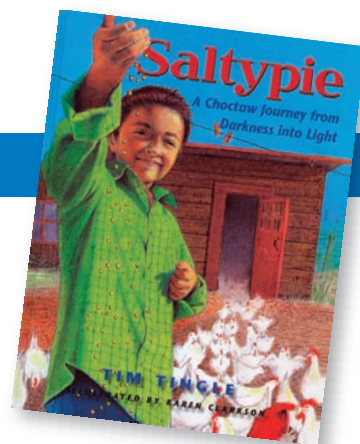
Themes: Family Traditions, Perseverance, American Indian Culture

Grade Level: 3rd to 6th grade

Book Brief: A Choctaw boy shares memories of his grandmother and the lessons she taught him.

Author:
Tim Tingle

Illustrator:
Karen Clarkson



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: (Leader should read “How Much Can We Tell Them?” at the end of the book first.) Discuss what kids know about the Choctaw people. Talk about stereotypes that might be common. Ask children to compare the boy’s family to their own home lives.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

A-TISKET, A-TASKET (AGES 4-12)

Materials: plastic fruit or berry basket, ribbon, construction paper, stapler, scissors

Hand-woven baskets are an important part of many cultures, including the Choctaw. Here’s a simple way to make a basket that’s almost hand-woven. “Weave” different colors of ribbon through the holes in the fruit basket; make patterns with the different colors. Tie off the ends. To make a handle, cut out a thin strip of construction paper and staple it to either side of the basket. Line the basket with more paper and fill it with goodies or treasure!

THUMBS UP (AGES 6-12)

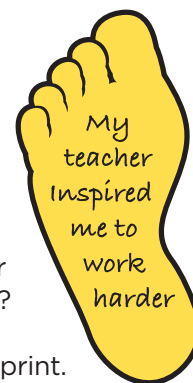
Pick 5 kids. Everyone else sits at a table or desk, closes their eyes and puts their heads down and their thumbs up. The 5 starters creep around; each gently presses down the thumb of 1 person. The 5 whose

thumbs were pressed down stand and try to guess who did it. If they’re right, they take that person’s place. Keep playing until everyone’s been picked at least once. (For a large group, increase the number of starters.)

FOOTFALL WALL (AGES 8-12)

Materials: construction paper, pencil, markers, scissors, tape

The author ends *Saltpie* by writing, “We all leave footfalls, everywhere we go. We change the people we meet.” Think about the people in your life. Who has made an impact on you? Trace your bare foot on a sheet of construction paper. Cut out your footprint. On it, write the name of someone who’s changed your life and tell *how*. Tape all the different footprints on one inspirational “footfall wall.”



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Walking the Choctaw Road (2005), *Spirits: Dark and Light* (2006), *Crossing Bok Chitto* (2006), *When Turtle Grew Feathers* (2007).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

www.rif.org/kids



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