“Hey Victor! Sometimes it’s a good day to be, and sometimes it’s a good day to change!”

Resources for educators serving Native American students

Mandy Cheromiah, Early Academic Outreach
Overview

- Challenges communicating with Native American students
- Resources to engage students
- Questions
Challenges

- Are students really paying attention?
- Little feedback from audience: no eye contact, students don’t answer questions...
- How do you get students attention?
Resources to engage students

- **Culturally relevant humor**
  “What’s the difference between an Indian man’s ghost and a white man’s ghost? A white man’s ghost says BOO and an Indian’s man’s ghost says BOO AYE!”

- **Interactive one-on-one ice breakers**
  ex: concentric circles: have students number off 1, 2, 1, 2...Have 1’s form an inner circle and 2’s form an outer circle. Have the 2’s buddy up with a 1. Ask questions that get the students talking for at least one minute. Then, have the outer circle rotate. Continue the rotation until everyone has talked to everyone. Potential questions: what college do you want to attend and why? What do you enjoy about home? What is your favorite game to play? Others?
Resources Cont’d

- Network with other educators who serve Native American students:
  AZ Tribal Education Database

- American Indian Well-Being Model: a framework for understanding successful persistent factors for Native American students
  ex: Well-Being Worksheets

- “The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian” by Sherman Alexie: a wonderful book that relates to Native youth; great for facilitating group discussions
Resources Cont’d

- **Technology**
  - Animoto ($5.00): create a video in minutes!
  - iMovie app ($4.99): have students create videos to showcase their work
    - ex: “9 year old spy” created by high school students
  - Or staff create interactive movies
    - ex: AISES Geoscience Project
  - Prezi: a new way to create presentations
  - Bitly: shorten the last nasty links to short, customizable links, ideal for Facebook or Twitter
Resources Cont’d

**Technology**

- **iBook Author**: be innovative! Create your own interactive textbooks or handbooks.
  
  *Ex: [AISES Geoscience iBook](#)*
  
  (need iPad to download)

- **Action FX app**: students love this! Have them create action pack movie clips

- **iTunes U**: explore universities, watch lectures, hear podcasts…a great way to research universities!

- **AppsGoneFree**: daily digest of free apps- a lot of educational apps are free for a limited time
Web Resources

- **StartNow!**: College preparation information that is easy to understand!
- **Khan Academy**: students need math help? Check out this website that assists students navigate through easy to difficult math concepts
- **Arizona Tri-University for Indian Education (ATUIE)**: Are you part of a tribal department or university? This network is for you.
It’s all about how you want to do it!

iPhone, Mac, and an Idea...

AISES Geoscience video
Questions?

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