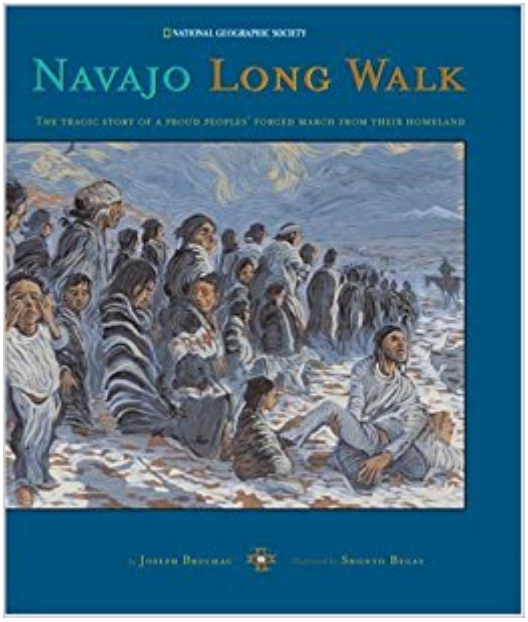
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Navajo Long Walk : Tragic Story Of A Proud Peoples Forced March From Homeland



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Synopsis

Powerfully written from the perspective of the Navajos and illustrated with deeply personal interpretations of historic events, this book sheds fresh light on a shameful episode of American history.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1030L (What’s this?)

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: National Geographic Children’s Books (April 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0792270584

ISBN-13: 978-0792270584

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 0.4 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,028,583 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #102 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > History > Modern #576 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s #585 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

"We were given two ears so that we may hear both sides of every story," notes Bruchac at the start of this detailed, sobering account of the Navajo people’s forced relocationon footfrom their homelands in what is now Arizona to the Bosque Redondo Reservation in the New Mexico Territory between 1863 and 1865. Writing initially in the present tense, Bruchac imagines a group of Navajos gathered around an elder. Their "circle of peace" is shattered by the arrival of American soldiers and their allies, the Utes, who will force the Navajos to abandon their lands and the "path of balance and beauty" to embark instead on "a trail of suffering and loss." He then chronicles the events leading up to the Navajos’ displacement, beginning with their embattled relationship with the Spanish settlers in the 16th century, and he describes the horrors of the so-called Long Walks (the people walked over 470 miles) and of the makeshift reservation. The author examines the roles of U.S. leaders, such as General Carleton, who "did not listen to the native side of the story," and explores the conditions

that led to the closing of the reservation in 1868 and the signing of "the first fair treaty" between the Navajo people and the U.S. government. Begay's (The Magic of Spider Woman) paintings, rendered with acrylics on clay board in swirling brushstrokes, convey urgency and emotion. His art reaches a new level of accomplishment and his captions, explaining his use of symbols, will help youngsters interpret the cryptic moments in his work. Ages 8-12. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Grade 5-7 As Bruchac states, this story is one of tragedy and triumph that all Americans should know. Here, he and Begay offer an introduction to it. The book opens in 1864 with the peaceful Navajo world shattered by events beyond its control. The author then explains the circumstances leading up to the forced relocation of Navajo people, and their eventual return to their homes and way of life in 1868. Both the full-color acrylic paintings and duotone watercolor pictures evoke a sense of hopelessness and doom. Ultimately, they show the strength of the Navajo nation. Throughout, Begay comments on his illustrations. Beside one depiction, he states, "I can feel the cold chill in the bones of these battered and subdued people living on the brink of nonexistence." While Native words such as Dook'o'oosl"d are explained in the text, there is no pronunciation guide. With large type and larger illustrations, this title has a picture-book look about it, but it is aimed at an audience with some knowledge of Navajo history. -Anne Chapman Callaghan, Racine Public Library, WI Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

great book

Navajo Long Walk is a brief book that is well worth the money and time to read it. The Long Walk was a tragic event in the life of the Navajo people similar to the Cherokee Trail of Tears. However, unlike the Cherokee the Navajos were allowed to return to most of their homeland after internment and the adoption of peaceful ways. The "Navajo Long Walk" tells the stories of Navajos who participated and forms them into an historical narrative. Of significant interest is the subsequent impact the event has had on Navajo (Dene) socio-political culture ever since, an impact similar to that of memory of the South and its lost Confederacy.

History of the horrific treatment of Native Americans in the U.S.

Good reading.

worked great

Excellent Research Book. Help make clearer how them like other tribes had to leave there homeland and travel someplace else. I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in a nations struggle for survival.

I wanted a book that would give me a true picture of the Navajo long walk. This book is for grade school children and not to be taken as factual.

Older children are fortunate to have the master storyteller, Joseph Bruchac, explain this part of American history to them. Using few but powerful words, he details these sad events, giving them reality and context that no grade school history textbook is going to match. Do your child a favor and offer them this book as a connection to the American past, as a warning, and as an inspiration.7 chapters, about 45 pages, wonderful illustrations and maps.

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