## Resources for Teaching about American Indians in the Military

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Memorial Day and Veterans Day both provide opportunities for teaching about American Indians and their unique contributions to the US military. American Indians serve in the US armed services at a higher percentage rate than any other group. There are currently over 31,000 American Indians serving in the military.

On November 11, 2020, the new <u>National Native American Veterans Memorial</u> was dedicated honoring the service and sacrifice of Native veterans and their families. The National Museum of the American Indian has developed an online exhibition to go along with the new memorial called <u>Why We Serve:</u> <u>Native Americans in the United States Armed Forces</u>. Check it out to learn more about American Indians and their military service.

Numerous resources about Native American veterans are also located on Native American Heritage month websites created by the <u>US Department of Defense</u> and the <u>US Army</u>.

Are you interested in hearing from Montana American Indian veterans? In 2019, the Veterans History Project interviewed Jamie Fox from Fort Belknap.



The Veterans History Project from the Library of Congress has an <u>excellent</u> <u>interview with Jamie Fox</u>. Jamie (A'aniiih / Metis) is from the Fort Belknap Reservation and a veteran of the US Air Force.

She joined the Air Force in 2007 at the age of 17, and deployed twice to the Middle East, first to Qatar and then to Kandahar, Afghanistan.

In 2008, Jamie was featured on the OPI poster series.

Be sure to check out the IEFA lesson plan about American Indian military hero and legend Joe Medicine Crow from the Crow Nation. <u>Counting Coup:</u> <u>Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond</u> <u>American Indians in the Military - A Warrior Spirit</u> – Learn about the Fort Peck Code Talkers! <u>Code Talker - A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two</u> <u>Native Words – Native Warriors</u>

Warrior Spirit Article by Ellen Baumler

