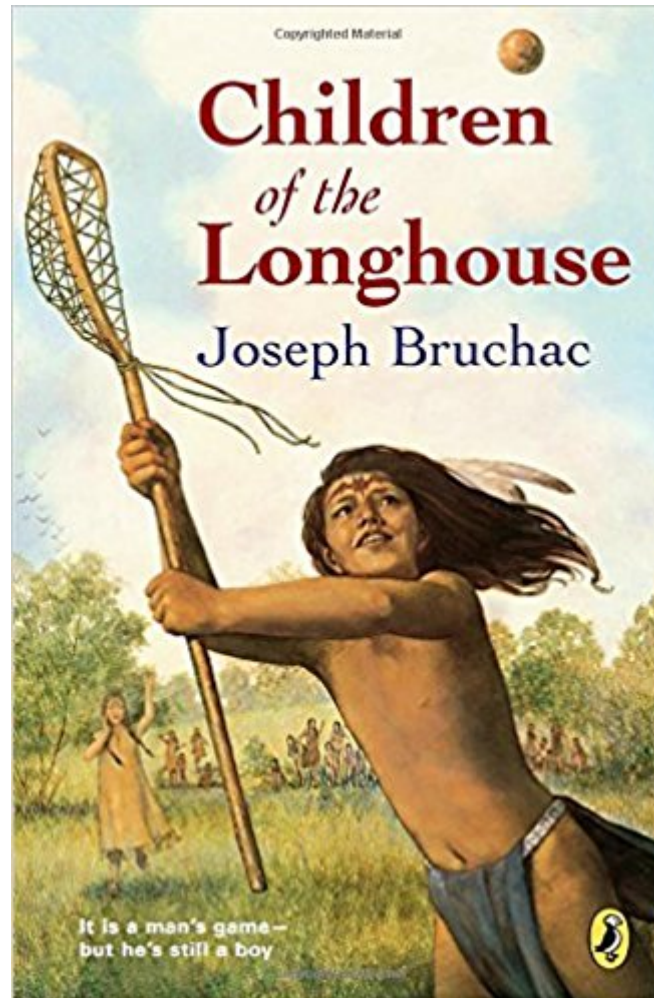




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# Children Of The Longhouse



## Synopsis

When Ohkwa'ri overhears a group of older boys planning a raid on a neighboring village, he immediately tells his Mohawk elders. He has done the right thing—but he has also made enemies. Grabber and his friends will do anything they can to hurt him, especially during the village-wide game of Tekwaarathon (lacrosse). Ohkwa'ri believes in the path of peace, but can peaceful ways work against Grabber's wrath?"An exciting story that also offers an in-depth look at Native American life centuries ago." —Kirkus Reviews

## Book Information

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Lexile Measure: 950L (What's this?)

Paperback: 176 pages

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Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140385045

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #51,497 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans](#) #246 in [Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors](#) #250 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States](#)

## Customer Reviews

Told from the alternating points of view of Native American Ohkwa'ri and his twin sister Otsi:stia, this historic novel shows a Mohawk village during the best of times: after the Great League of Peace is formed and before European settlers rob the tribe of its land. The story revolves around 11-year-old Ohkwa'ri's conflicts with a pompous bully, but the plot is less essential than the painstakingly wrought details about the tribe's daily rituals, legends and annual celebrations. Bruchac, who states in an afterword that his book is "the result of a lifetime of learning from my Mohawk friends and neighbors," eloquently conveys how democracy, respect and justice are integral components of the Native Americans' religion and government. Besides learning the origins of modern-day lacrosse and certain kinds of tool-making, readers will come away from this novel with a broadened

awareness of a nearly vanished culture. Ages 8-11. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.  
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Grade 3-6?Ohkwa'ri is hiding in a shaded area when he overhears the misguided Grabber's intentions to start a war with the neighboring Anen:taks tribe. Although the boy is barely 11 winters old, he realizes something must be done to stop his fellow tribesman's plans. Set in a longhouse village in upstate New York, Bruchac's story establishes a sense of place in the first chapter: Ohkwa'ri works to become a respected member of his tribe, while Grabber and his cohorts, Greasy Hair, Falls a Lot, and Eats Like a Bear, attempt to get even with him. Despite the predictability of the plot, young readers will enjoy the glimpses of Native American culture. The importance of respect and honor are clearly outlined through Ohkwa'ri's feelings toward his elders such as his grandmother and his uncle. On his own, the earnest young hero builds and sleeps in his own lodge, illustrating independence and self-sufficiency. Other aspects of Native life such as name giving, government, and family relations are outlined. The mixing of fact with fiction is consistent and believable. Jan Hudson's *Sweetgrass* (Scholastic, 1991) or Elizabeth George Speare's *The Sign of the Beaver* (Dell, 1993) are more absorbing, yet Bruchac's latest offering is a good choice for large collections.?Julie Shatterly, York County Public Library, Rock Hill, SCCopyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I recommend this book for its story, cultural accuracy, and high interest action. First it is an exciting story of how conflicts arise and can be resolved with an exciting lacrosse game at the end. How cool is that? But the cultural and historical details make this a fascinating read for all ages. If you want to know about the lives of Native Americans in the New York area, written by a Native American, and put into an historically accurate story, this is a great read. I would recommend this as a high interest type of reader for middle school readers, one that would challenge them as well. The story could be about conflicts today, but the action is naturally more intense. If you are looking for an accurate portrait of Native American life, Bruchac is a wonderful author for you to choose. It is hard to find good books about northeastern Native Americans.

We read this as part of Build Your Library 5th grade curriculum. Both my 11 year old son and I really loved it. Bruchac does an excellent job of making an engaging, page-turning tale with many life lessons and historical facts throughout. It was very hard to maintain the schedule in the curriculum as both of us just wanted to keep reading. Five stars, for sure.

A quick read for my 5th grader, we read this out loud and found it to be an interesting insight into Native American cultures.

Actually, my 11-year old grandson read this. He is a Lacrosse enthusiast and thought this book related to him personally. He has encouraged his team members to order this book from .

The book was slow to start and somewhat confusing with the long and hard to pronounce Native American names. Once my daughter was able to get past those, she enjoyed the book about a Lacrosse game and the coming of age of young men during that time.

LOVED this book.Great read for middle grade/4th and up.

I love this sweet story, one that will keep young ones riveted, with a happy theme about strength, courage, and honor...

An absolutely fabulous, educational and entertaining book.

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