Native American Pictograph Stories

Directions
Explain to your class that before European settlers arrived, Native Americans often communicated and told stories using pictographs. Back then, they did not have an alphabet to write words, so they represented ideas in different ways.

Distribute copies of the Pictograph Symbols reproducible. Explain that Native Americans used symbols like the ones shown. Encourage students to think of their own original symbols for words that are not listed. Draw and write these on the board or chart paper.

Hand out copies of the Pictograph Story reproducible. Prompt students to write a story on the “hide” using the symbols. (Symbols can be colored, if desired.) Then, have students write out the story below, using English. Display the stories on a bulletin board, or bind them together to make a class book.