

What Skills Do Native American School Psychologists Have?

Native American School Psychologists possess professional expertise and cultural competence that enables them to:

- Understand that Indigenous children learn best when provided with culturally appropriate supports and resources.
- Acknowledge individual needs
- Build on children's strengths
- Display an attitude of acceptance and encouragement
- Create an atmosphere of alliance between school and home



© Marilyn Angel Wynn/Nativestock.com



SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY:

NASP represents school psychology and supports school psychologists to enhance the learning and mental health of all children and youth.

*The Role of a
Native American
School Psychologist*

For further information about graduate school training programs in school psychology visit the NASP website or contact:



NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL
PSYCHOLOGISTS

4340 East West Highway, Suite 402
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 657-0270
(866) 331-NASP, toll free
(301) 657-0275, fax
(301) 657-4155, TTY
www.nasponline.org



© Marilyn Angel Wynn/Nativestock.com



Becoming a School Psychologist: Strengthening Our Native Children and Communities

School psychologists work with parents and teachers to help children succeed in school. They are valued members of school teams who understand how children learn and develop, problems that can make school difficult, and the kind of supports that can help children achieve their best.

In Native communities, Indigenous school psychologists bring to this process a personal understanding of the cultural strengths and honored traditions that connect with and guide the positive growth of Native children.

What Do School Psychologists Do?

- Assess aptitude for learning and academic skills
- Determine social-emotional functioning
- Work with school teams to determine eligibility for special services
- Conduct individual and group counseling
- Develop and implement crisis response services
- Advocate for culturally responsive curriculum and instruction
- Enhance school culture and team capacity through dissemination of knowledge, collaboration, and consultation
- Support and increase school performance through implementation of school-wide prevention/intervention programs
- Generate culturally appropriate research to guide program development, learning, and behavior strategies

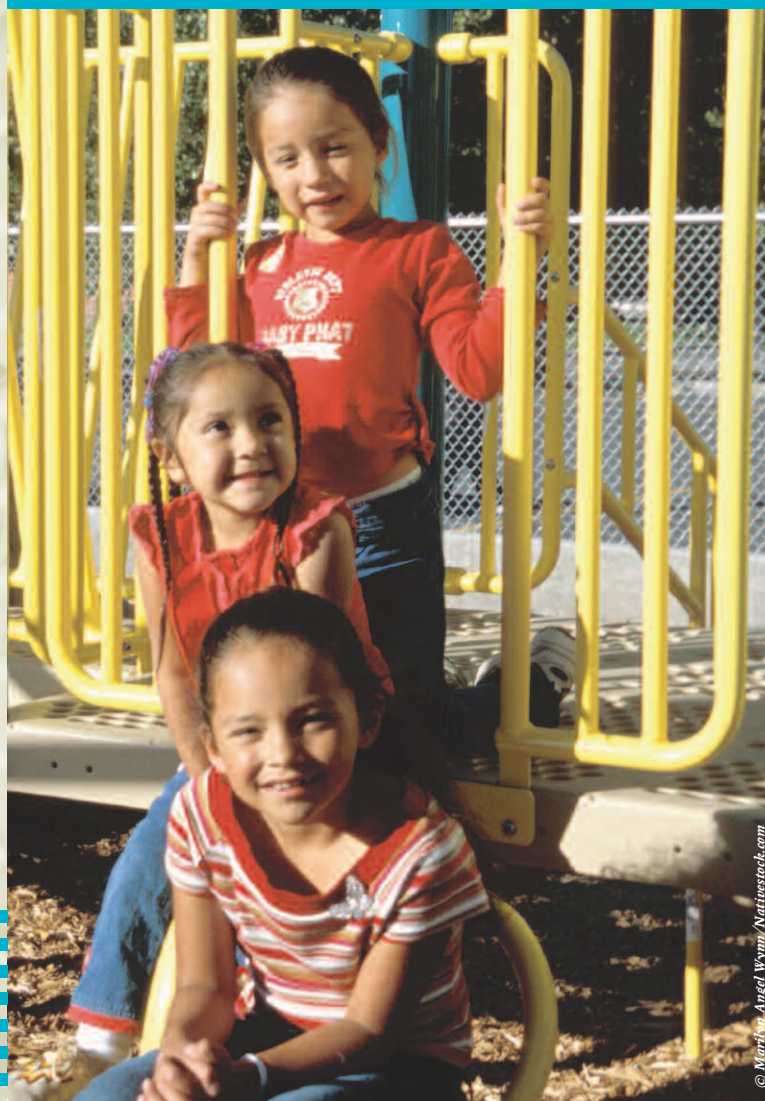


Why Native Communities Need Indigenous School Psychologists

Almost all children struggle in school at some point but can succeed with appropriate support. Indigenous school psychologists possess the ability to affirm children's potential, contribute to their lifelong achievement, and strengthen our communities.

Specifically, they help:

- Lessen achievement gaps
- Create equity in programs for gifted children
- Identify Native students appropriately when in need of special education services
- Increase the opportunities for Native students to achieve developmental and academic milestones
- Assure Native students' lifelong learning



About NASP

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) represents school psychology and supports school psychologists to enhance the learning and mental health of all children and youth.

NASP is the largest professional organization of school psychologists in the world, representing more than 25,000 members or approximately 75% of the profession.

How NASP Supports Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD) Services

- Advocacy
- Native American Group within the Multicultural Affairs Committee
- NASP Minority Scholarship
- Promotion and awareness of cultural responsive practices
- Information on school psychology graduate school training programs with a multicultural focus
- Translated resources for parents
- Native American presentations and meetings at NASP Convention