St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Tuesday—Games

Kwey, (rhymes with day), Hi! Please join me! My name is Kateri (Cat-air-ee). I am a Native American Indian. I was born in northern New York in 1656. My parents and my baby brother died from a sickness. The sickness left my body weak. My aunts took good care of me and I helped as much as I could with planting beans and corn, gathering firewood, and doing beadwork. I spent a good deal of time in the forest gathering strawberries and walnuts. While I was there I would remember stories that my mother would tell me about Jesus. She told me that Jesus said that we should love and help each other. She told me many more stories about God in whispers because these stories were from people who had come from far away Europe. Later, other's from Europe brought a sickness that caused my parents and many others to die. Those who survived didn't want anything to do with the stories and so I never talked about Jesus.

While I was in the forest, I would pick up sticks and fix them together in the shape of a cross with strong grasses. I would leave them around the forest as little reminders of Jesus. When I saw them later, I would sit down and talk to Jesus in my heart. I didn't have any religion teacher or a church but I knew Jesus. Knowing him made me so happy that other's could feel God when I was close to them. I teach that we can see Jesus in all the things around us and how important it is to take care of our planet.

Follow My Leader

Native American game played by both boys and girls. The Leader improvises steps and the movements. All who follow must repeat and keep time to the song.

The first player balances a single stick on the back of his hand. The stick is tossed into the air and caught in the same hand. The player continues adding sticks one at a time until he misses one or more on the catch. Points are awarded according to how many sticks a player had on his last complete catch.

Erect a wigwam. 3 long pipes (PVC to simulate trees) and a sheet.