

## **Firebear shares culture with Cassidy**

Firebear, a Native American artist-in-residence, recently spent three days at Cassidy Elementary School. He talked about Native American history and culture, including art, music and dance. He also touched on economics and government issues with fourth- and fifth-grade classes.

One morning he taught the kids a couple of new steps, including the snake dance and the rabbit dance.

In the first one, students fell into line behind Firebear and followed closely as they wound around the gym like a snake. In the latter, they danced in a circle while Firebear, as the eagle, beat his drum and eyed his prey. He explained to the kids how rabbits learn to “freeze” perfectly still so a soaring eagle cannot see them below.

Firebear, a Choctaw originally from the Southwest, moved to Kentucky about five years ago. He lives in Mount Washington, near Louisville, and travels around to various schools.

For more about Firebear, go to [www.turtlebowbear.com](http://www.turtlebowbear.com).

[View a slideshow](#) of pictures.