Explanation of the Medicine Wheel

The Medicine Wheel is a physical symbol showing relationship with the universe. Everything has a spirit or part of the Great Spirit within itself. There are four sections to the Medicine Wheel, each of a different color and different meaning. The number four is sacred to Native Americans. The four colors have different meanings depending on the Tribe. One example is red may symbolize life, knowledge, and winter. Black may symbolize darkness, night, and hardship. Yellow may symbolize power, spring, or new beginnings. White may symbolize integrity and summer. Contemporary interpretations of the Medicine Wheel suggest that the colors are also symbolic of the races of people.