



Grade Level:
4th-8th

Subject Area:
Social Studies
Language Arts

WI Model Academic Standards:

Social Studies:
A.4.2; A.4.4 B.4.1,
B.4.4, B.4.5, A.8.9;
B.8.1

Language Arts:
C.4.2; C.8.2

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Indians of Yesterday and Today

Lesson Guide

Program Overview:

Through a tour of the museum's Native American exhibits and dioramas students will make observations and connections regarding how people adapted to the resources available within their environment and how they have influenced their respective cultures in the past and today.

Background:

The Native American exhibits portray Indian life from long ago and today. The dioramas depict a variety of environments that show how Native Americans met their basic needs. Food, shelter, clothing and transportation varied from group to group because of the resources that were available. Students will take a trip through the woodlands and plains to learn how the various environments affected the culture of the Native Americans. They will discover how resourceful the Native Americans were in using their surroundings to meet their needs. A stop at the Tribute To Survival/Powwow exhibit will portray Native Americans of today, and stops at the tipi and the woodlands will portray life of yesterday.

Student Objectives:

1. Students will identify, compare, and contrast the resources and how they were used by different Native American groups.
2. Students learn how resources influenced the type of food, shelter, clothing, transportation and cultural traditions of Native American groups.
3. Students will correlate the resource availability to climatic conditions.
4. Students will compare and contrast life of Native American cultures of today and in the past.

Assessment:

1. Students will correctly identify multiple resources unique to different Native American groups and list how these groups adapted to utilize the resource.
2. Students will correctly associate a defined resource's availability to a climate specific to a geographic region.
3. Students will provide a list of similarities and differences between daily activities and cultural traditions present today and in the past.

Program Vocabulary:

Adapt: to make fit by modification

Environment: the circumstances and conditions surrounding an organism that influence its existence, including physical, biological, and all other factors

Native American: Indigenous peoples of the Americas

Resources: aspects/components of the environment that people have placed or assigned value to or see as being available for use; a source of supply or support

Enrichment Vocabulary:

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Anthropologists | Cause/Effect | Change | Chronological |
| Compare/Contrast | Craftsmanship | Culture | Diversity |
| Examples | Functional Art | Instrument | Nomadic |
| Pattern | Rhythm | Tempo | |

Procedure:

Meet your Museum educator in front of the elevator on the second floor five minutes before your scheduled program start time.