

The lesson plan I am writing is for a Kindergarten class at Winnebago Public School in Winnebago, NE. I am focusing my lesson plan around the "theme" Adaptation and persistence among native inhabitants of the plains amidst changes brought about by U.S. colonialism. I think it is very important for my native students to understand how their own culture has adapted throughout the years, as well as understanding how other tribes and groups of native inhabitants have persisted in their own culture and customs.

I learned a lot about how different groups of native people have had to leave their lifestyles behind to adapt to the way they were being forced to live. Some had to relocate, be separated from their families and completely leave behind their own ways of life. However, these groups tried to keep as much of their culture alive as possible. I want my students to be able to view all other groups of Native Americans with an open mind and have an understanding that there are in fact lots of other customs in the plains area and what they mean to these people.

My students are very young and I would like them to be able to focus on a very fun, hands on lesson that involves them in every aspect. The lesson will be revolved around the art, clothing, food, games and lifestyles of all of the plains Indians. Each project comes with a short story about the Native American group that the project focuses around. I want my students to be proud of not only their own tribe and where they have come from, but to really have a complete understanding and respect for all tribes and the culture that made them who they are. I feel one thing I learned throughout this class was the connection that all native plains people feel to their land and to one another, and still have that same compassion even many years later. I would love to be able to instill this feeling into my students through small hands on art lessons. Once they are finished with the lesson they should be able to take the project home and share it, and the meaning/story behind the project and why it is important with their siblings, parents, grandparents etc.

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Lesson Plan
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Objective: The students will gain a knowledge and understanding for other plains Indians culture and lifestyles.

Materials: More Than Moccasins By: Laurie Carlson pgs. 10-11

- Bowl or plate
- Construction paper
- Markers
- Crayons
- Paint
- Scissors
- Tape
- An example of a completed project

Time: 45 minutes-1 hour

Opening: Find out prior knowledge from students about Tepees and see what they know, or “think” they know. Make a visual chart on the board to write any questions the students may have. Also write down any statements the students may think they already know.

1. Read pg. 10. This will explain to the students the story behind the people who used these tepees and why they came up with these ideas.
2. Explain to the students how the Dakota people built these and what all things the Tepees would be used for.
3. Have a discussion with the students about how they feel about living in a Tepee. Find out which students would enjoy, or would not enjoy this living situation. Why or why not?

Project: Making Tepees

1. Have students trace a circle using the bowl or plate on a sheet of white construction paper.
2. Cut the circle out, and then cut the circle in half. (Each student will make two tepees)
3. Decorate half of the half circles. (the students may decorate however they want)
4. Roll the half circles into a cone shape, and glue the ends together. Cut a slit and fold back the flaps for doors.
5. If the students wish to have a “new” tepee they may leave it white. If they would like

an older looking tepee have them darken the top part.

6. Clean up scraps, put away supplies.

Closing: Discuss the meanings of the tepees with the students. Answer any of the questions that were written on the board. Talk with the students about what they learned. Or anything they found interesting.

Review the importance of the different areas people lived in, and the different types of houses that native people have lived in. Also, talk about why these tepees would be useful and why they would not be.

Finally, talk about if tepees would be realistic in our world, why or why not?