

## Plains Indians

**WebQuest Description:** This WebQuest covers cultural facts about the Plains Indians.

**Grade Level:** 3-5

**Curriculum:** Art / Music

**Keywords:** Plains Indians, horses, teepee, Sioux, Cheyenne, Crow, Blackfeet, Comanche, Pawnee

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### Introduction

Going back to the 1700s, a group called the Plains Indians occupied the land we live in today and surrounding areas north and south of where we are. 200 years ago there were no cars, no stores, and no houses like we have today. Their lives were much different than ours are however, our lives were greatly influenced by the culture of the Plains Indians. The addition of new resources helped these people develop and change their culture, eventually leading to our current, modern culture.

Today we will learn who the Plains Indians are and which ways their culture from the 1700s is the same or different than ours in the 2000s and how our culture was influenced by the Plains Indians. You will have the opportunity to COMPARE and CONTRAST the two cultures based on your own life and what you have learned about our community.

### Tasks

Let's first define the word CULTURE: Culture is the activities and ideas that a group of people share including beliefs, traditions, values, dress, behaviors, attitudes and more.

Can you brainstorm some ideas of what our culture is like? You may write down some ideas if you'd like!

After you have thought about our modern culture, your first task will be to go through the PowerPoint presentation on the Plains Indians and read through the slides to learn about the culture of the Plains Indians. As you go through it, think of ways modern Pueblo is the same and which ways it is different than the Plains Indians and their culture from ideas you brainstormed and new ideas you come up with as you go through the PowerPoint. Also, think of what the Plains Indians did that may have led to our modern culture! Use the COMPARE and CONTRAST Venn diagram worksheet to organize ideas of how our cultures are the same and different. As you compare can contrast the two cultures, be sure to include ideas about the location they lived, what they lived in, how they were transported, what they did for fun, foods they ate, how they got their food, how they communicated, clothing, tools and instruments and if our culture is the same or different than that.

Next you will make a poster book filled with pictures that show the similarities and differences of the two cultures that you outlined in your Venn diagram. The front and back cover will be the differences of the two cultures and the inside will be the similarities. You can get the images from the internet, out of news papers, out of magazines, or you may draw them if you cannot find a picture anywhere else. However, it must be colored if you do so.

The last step of this project will be to write a compare and contrast paragraph to go with your poster book. This will include ideas that show the two cultures are different, how they are the same and how the culture of the Plains Indians lead to the modern culture of Pueblo. You will write 3 drafts, a rough draft that a partner will edit, a second draft that the teacher will edit and a final draft that you will type.

### Process

1. Brainstorm ideas of what our culture is like. Where do you go everyday during the week? (Hint: where are you now?) What do you eat for dinner and where did that food come from? Where do you sleep at night? How do you get places? What games do you play or what do you do for fun? Think about your life and what we have discussed about our community.

2. Now you may go through the PowerPoint presentation (attached below) that talks about the culture of the Plains Indians. Use the COMPARE and CONTRAST Venn diagram (also attached below) to organize thoughts from what you learn in the PowerPoint. In the outer portions, list ideas that are significant to that individual culture. In the middle, list ideas that are the same in both cultures or how something of the Plains Indians' culture led to modern Pueblo culture.

3. Use the links on the Task page to do further research on the Plains Indians and how their culture is the same and different than Pueblo culture. Add this research to your Venn diagram. You may also use books from the library to further your research.

4. Once you have come up with 8-10 ideas in each part of your Venn diagram, you may start looking for pictures to represent each idea. You may use Google images, Yahoo images, other websites approved by the teacher, magazines, and news papers.

If you have 1 picture that illustrates transportation for the Plains Indians, make sure you have another picture that illustrates transportation for modern Pueblo.

It is a good idea to make 3 piles of pictures as you are printing them off and cutting them out. Make 1 pile for the culture of the Plains Indians, 1 pile for modern Pueblo Culture, and 1 pile for the similarities. Try to get 8-10 images per pile.

5. Now you may start putting together your poster book! Take a large piece of poster board

and fold it in half (like a taco!).

6. Use markers (or type on the computer) to label each part of your poster book with a title. The front cover of the book should be title PLAINS INDIANS. The back cover of the poster book should be titled MODERN PUEBLO. Open the poster book to the inside and label it SIMILARITIES. If you wish to use different titles, please ask the teacher first. The title should be fairly large and easy to read (don't use a red marker on a red piece of poster board or a yellow marker on a white poster board).

7. Next, start gluing your pictures on your poster book. Put the pictures that represent the culture of the Plains Indians on the front cover around the PLAINS INDIANS title, the pictures that represent modern Pueblo culture on the back cover around the MODERN PUEBLO title and the pictures that represent similarities on the inside around the SIMILARITIES title.

As you are gluing each picture down, think to yourself how it illustrates that culture, how it is a similarity of the two cultures or how it shows the culture of the Plains Indians contributed to the culture of modern Pueblo. You may have to explain your pictures to other people that look at your final project!

8. Now that your poster book is complete, your next step is to write a paragraph. Write a rough draft on lined paper. Include a topic sentence, at least 3 differences between the two cultures, at least 3 similarities or contributions, and a conclusion sentence. Do not just list the similarities and differences, explain them too.

9. Have a partner read and edit your paragraph.

10. Write a second draft fixing the errors you and your partner found.

11. Have the teacher read your paragraph and make any additional corrections.

12. Type your final draft on the computer. Print it out and display it with your poster book!

## Evaluation

Category and Score	2 points	5 points	8 points	10 points	Score
Venn Diagram	1-2 points are included in each portion of the Venn diagram and an outline of the similarities and differences in the two cultures is not clear.	3-4 points are included in each portion of the Venn diagram and an outline of the similarities and differences in the two cultures is not clear.	5-7 points are included in each portion of the Venn diagram and clearly outline the similarities and differences in the two cultures.	8-10 points are included in each portion of the Venn diagram and clearly outline the similarities and differences in the two cultures.	
Participation in finding pictures	Student was rarely on task while trying to find a variety of pictures to complete the poster book.	Student only actively participated in finding a variety of pictures to complete the poster book less than 50% of the time.	Student actively participated in finding a variety of pictures to complete the poster book 75% of the time.	Student actively participated in finding a variety of pictures to complete the poster book.	
Poster Book	Poster book is missing more than 1 title, very few pictures are included and the presentation is messy and unorganized.	Poster book includes 2 titles, 4-5 pictures per side and presentation is not very clear or organized.	Poster book includes all 3 titles, 6-7 pictures per side and presentation is clear and organized.	Poster book includes all 3 titles, 8-10 pictures per side and presentation is clear and organized.	
Paragraph	Only 1 or 2 drafts were completed. many of the components are missing.	Only 2 of the 3 drafts were completed, most of the required components are present- only missing 1-3	All 3 drafts were completed, most of the required components are present- only missing 1-2.	All 3 drafts were completed, 3 similarities and differences alone with an introduction and conclusion are present.	
				Total Score	

## Conclusion

By completing this activity you have not only expanded your knowledge on the culture of the Plains Indians but you have also learned more about our modern culture here in Pueblo! You also learned how people of the past contributed to the creation of our culture and can see how we are contributing to the future. This activity linked knowledge of our community to the past in order to gain a better understanding of our personal lives.

If you would like to continue your research on the Plains Indians and Pueblo history, visit the links below!

## Teacher Page

This Quest would work great to open up a unit on the Plains Indians or to close it depending on your main goal of the unit. The Colorado Content Standards;this lesson;addresses for 3rd grade are:  
Social Studies

1.2: People in the past influence the development and interaction of different communities and regions

- a. Compare past and present situations and events
- c. Give examples of people and events, and developments that brought important changes to a community or region
- d. Describe the history, interaction, and contribution of the various peoples and cultures that have lived in or migrated to a community or region.

#### Reading, Writing, and Communicating

3.2: A writing process is used to plan, draft, and write a variety of informational texts

a. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and

information clearly.

3.3: Correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are used when writing

b. With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing

as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

#### Visual Arts

1. 2. Art has intent and purpose

2. 2. Artists, viewers, and patrons make connections among the characteristics, expressive features, and purposes of art and design

3. 1. Use basic media to express ideas through the art-making process

b. Communicate an idea visually

c. Make works of art based on a familiar idea

4. 2. Historical and cultural ideas are evident in works of art

Use the characteristics and expressive features of art and design to discuss historical ideas

Relate personal experiences to familiar historical and cultural events

Recognize and respect differences in familiar cultural styles, genres, and contexts

\*\*\*A lesson plan for this WebQuest is attached below.

#### **Standards**

#### **Credits**

#### **Other**