

Indian Children Learn by Doing

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OVERVIEW

Students will discover that Colorado Indian children learned by imitating their elders.

STANDARDS

- Reading Standard 1: Students read and understand a variety of materials.
- Reading Standard 2: Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences.
- Reading and Writing Standard 3: Students write and speak using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
- Reading and Writing Standard 4: Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing.
- Reading and Writing Standard 5: Students read to locate, select, and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, reference, and technological sources.
- History Standard 1.3: Students use chronology to examine and explain historical relationship.
- History Standard 2.2: Students know how to interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources of historical information.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will acquire information through the use of primary sources concerning the how work is divided in the Colorado Indian tribes.
- Students will discover that Colorado Indian children learn through play and imitation of adult activities.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- What are the jobs that Colorado Indian boys and girls have?

- How does imitating adults and playing with toys prepare them for adulthood?

MATERIALS

- Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM or website
- Any other sources that the teacher may have as books, magazines, websites, etc.

PROCEDURE

1. Students look at all sections of the CD-ROM dealing with Colorado Indians and specifically Families, Children, and Infants.
2. Students select five photos that show people involved in work or play and write a sentence that describes each picture.
3. Students meet in small groups to discuss what they have discovered about Indian's work (adults and children).
4. Students check supplemental materials to find more examples of work and play.
5. In a discussion, the teacher leads students to understand that there is a purpose for play and mirroring the adults of their community.
6. Students choose one job that Indian children do and draw a picture illustrating this task. On a separate piece of paper, they write how the children learned to do this job.
7. Students display these pictures on a bulletin board.

EXTENSIONS

1. What other toys, games, or activities do you think the Indian children could do that might prepare them for their roles as adults?
2. Write a paragraph explaining the use of your toy, game, or activity. Answer this question: How will it help this child become a more productive adult?
3. Make your toy or game and demonstrate it to the class.

ASSESSMENT

- Writing is evaluated using 6 traits.
- Students should be able to discover the division of labor and the jobs that each sex performs as cooking, setting up tepees, butchering meat, drawing water etc. are for the women's work and hunting and defending the tribes are done by the men.