

5 E's Lesson Plan Template

Lesson: Wizipan—Parfleche

“Keeping the Tradition Alive.”

Objectives:

To describe Lakota parfleche designs found on everyday objects.

To use Lakota symbols to illustrate their importance in the cultural heritage of a people

Essential Question(s):

How can a thing of beauty, a parfleche, hold knowledge of the past?

How long can an art survive?

How can a parfleche teach me about my own past, present, and future?

Materials/Resources

Essential Vocabulary

Teacher:

Parfleche Images (focus observations on Lakota or “Sioux”)

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/288793394835650609/?lp=true>

This *How-To* uses felt instead of rawhide (not recommended) but has a good diagram for measuring, folding, etc.

<http://history.nd.gov/activities/parfleche.pdf>

Parfleche information from *The Cartographic Heritage of the Lakota Sioux*, Number 48, Spring 2004. Julie A. Rice-Rollins. See pages 39-41.

<http://www.cartographicperspectives.org/index.php/journal/article/viewFile/cp48-rice-rollins/514>

Student:

- Rawhide
- Parfleche *Painting Cookies*
http://www.beadmatch.com/paint_cookies.php
- Brushes
- Ice Pick or Nail
- Leather Strips
- “Hide Glue”

Mini American Indian parfleche made from dog chew (fun project) www.instructables.com

- Parfleche
- X Form
- Motif
- Iconography
- Pigment
- *Cookies*

Learning Experience

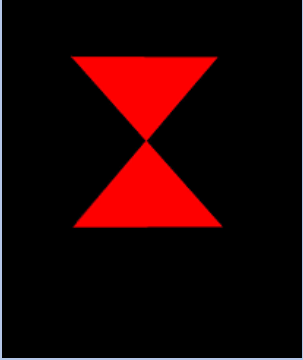

Standards and Practice:

OSEU 2: Identity and Resiliency

South Dakota Visual Arts Standards

Creating

Anchor Standard 1: K-12. Cr. 1 Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
HSp.VA.Cr.1.2

	<p>Anchor Standard 3: K-12. Cr. 3 Refine ad complete artistic work. HSp.VA.Cr.3.2</p> <p>Responding</p> <p>Anchor Standard 7: K-12. Re. 7: Perceive and analyze artistic work. HSp.VA.Re.7.2</p> <p>Connecting</p> <p>Anchor Standard 1: K-12. Cn. 11: Relate artistic ideas and works HSp.VA.Cn.11.1</p>
<p>Cultural Integration:</p> <p>“As above, so below.”</p> 	<p>“In contemporary Lakota cosmology the motif for the term <i>Kapemni</i> (twisting), a simple hourglass or X-form, is used to symbolize the Lakotas' entire relationship with the universe —an intertwining of the physical world, philosophy, and religion.” The X form symbol “...represents ‘the power that mediates (or carries) prayer from below to above’ and ‘this same power is sent back down in response.’” “...<i>Kapemni</i>, the X-form used in Lakota iconography represents the cosmology of reflection, a spiritual view in which the physical world is dramatically mirrored in the sky and stars directly overhead. As above, so below. The form consists of two triangles joined at the center. The one pointed up is the symbol for the earth, the one pointed down for the sun and stars.” It is important to understand that the X form is a cone-shaped 3-dimensional symbol that most resembles a “cottonwood leaf twisted into the form of a tipi.” Ron Goodman (Goodman 1992) says there are “two vortexes (two tipi shapes) joined at their apexes, and turning.” “...The <i>Ka-pe-mni</i> (Pemni is "twisting." Ka is a "prefix for a class of verbs whose action is performed by... the action of the wind".) (Buechel 1970) expresses the notion that...it becomes two, "grandfather" sacred above, <i>tunkas'ila</i>, and "grandmother" sacred below, <i>unci</i>, while remaining one.” “...And it is through the power of their ‘sacred talk’, <i>woglaka wakan</i>, their prayerful and mirrored dialogue, that the stars are created, the galaxies occur, and finally that all life on earth comes into being.” (Goodman 1992).</p> <p>-From <i>The X-Form: Applying Teton Lakota Sioux Cosmology to the Rock Art of the Upper Midwest</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What symbols represent me and my world? • How are symbols made on parfleche? • How can I make a parfleche-like container that will be functional?
<p>I Can Statement(s):</p>	<p>I can relate to Lakota symbols</p> <p>I can create art reflective of culture, traditions and/or history</p> <p>I can evaluate my own personal artistic vision</p> <p>I can use my art to depict cultural context of the times</p>
<p>Engage: Activating Strategy/Hook:</p> 	<p>When considering the historic impact that art had on Lakota tribes, parfleche work is an excellent example of how everyday objects were given special meaning. The skillful creation of classic geometric designs utilized by Shawn Espinosa, Lakota Artist, in his parfleche work is in keeping with a pre-European tradition of abstract expressionist designs to convey complex ideas. Furthermore, his work is representative of the time and care that went into the traditional decorative items possessed by Lakota people, as well as the idea of functioning art. In order to remember and</p>

Shawn Espinosa, Lakota Artist



A Hunkpapa Lakota parfleche

honor our past, it is imperative to keep these beautiful objects in our present. <https://www.redcloudschool.org/heritage/ourartists/shawnespinosa>

- Why is important to keep art objects?
- How are they made?
- Why are some parfleche round?
- What other designs are used? Contemporary designs?

Explore: Learning Experiences



<https://www.redcloudschool.org/heritage/ourartists/shawnespinosa>



A native woman creates a parfleche on a stretched out rawhide in the shade of her lodge.

Parfleche: Art History on the Plains An Examination of the Origin of An Art Form, from Dakota Wind.

The big idea is that the parfleche is functional art of the Lakota

How it made?

Process: Leather for the parfleche is prepared by soaking buffalo hide, scraping away the fur, extra flesh, and bits of remaining fat to create a uniform thickness to the hide. The wet hide is then stretched and staked to the ground, or stretched on a frame, and chopped to break the bonds in the hide. This will allow flexibility for folding and refolding when dry. The hide is then formed and folded into the desired final shape. For ex. the sides are overlapped and the ends folded inward, to meet in the middle, and then closed with a leather tie. The decoration is made by "painting" the hide with a "cookie" (paint) made of earth based pigment, minerals and hide glue made by extracting the adhesive found in animal bones and skin.

Modified from: <https://denverartmuseum.org/node/12341>

How will YOU make it?

Keep *Planning Notes* about decisions will you need to make:

- Parfleche size
- Purpose (Use)
- Shape
- Colors
- X Form design?

Decide how to make an original parfleche designed by modifying the brief instructions, above, as necessary. Ask for teacher assistance or research websites on how to make parfleches and how to paint on rawhide.

Teacher will guide students through the process by asking questions to aid student thinking about a parfleche they will create. (see websites listed in Materials section, above)

Explain: Learning Experiences

What is Below is Like What is Above

X Form (Mirror Image)



Lakota Parfleche painted with beautiful scarlet, royal blue, a brilliant yellow, and a touch of green.

“The use of simply rendered symbols to express complex ideas is pervasive in religious iconography. The X form is often found embedded in more complex patterns in their art — beadwork or painted objects This symbol occurs in Plains Indian decorative art such as beadwork, [tipi]-painting, and parfleche”

The X-Form: Applying Teton Lakota Sioux Cosmology to the Rock Art of the Upper Midwest

Students will discuss key concepts in focus groups: X form, materials needed, process for making a parfleche, its usefulness, and why was it important in the past and in this generation.

Students will take Cornell Notes to record concepts discussed in the focus groups to use for reference as they move through the parfleche-making process.

Teacher will use question stems to help students explain and justify the decisions that need to be made such as: What if...? How do you know that? What do you recall? How can you modify or adjust decisions you have made?

Elaborate: Extending & Defining

How is this knowledge applied in our daily lives?

How can creating things of beauty be satisfying and hold significant meaning in our daily lives, e. g., spiritual connections?


How is it used?

The parfleche is designed to carry all types of objects. Sioux parfleches appear in three common shapes: box, tube, and flat/folded (like the object pictured above). Each shape is meant for the objects it carries. For example, a box shape would be great for storing moccasins. In the past, the sturdy and compact design of the parfleche was ideal for keeping the stored items safe during travel and was typically used for holding dried meats and pemmican

Vocabulary listed above will be introduced and connect to students' observations.

Evaluate: Summarizing Strategy

Students review their *Planning* and *Cornell Notes* to determine what they did to achieve the lesson objective? They will share the outcome in peer and/or teacher conferences.

Differentiation Strategies		
Extension	Intervention	Language Development
Continue with <i>Wakinyan</i> , the “Thunderbird” in this series of lessons	MINI AMERICAN INDIAN PARFLECHE  www.instructables.com	
Assessment(s)		
Formative	Summative	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-W-L Charts • Interviews Teacher-made questions • One-minute paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checklist (3 facts about the X form, explain process used to make your parfleche, what would you change?) • Survey • Individual Written Responses: How would you summarize your project? What conclusions can you draw? 	
Teacher Reflection: (Next steps?)		