

Indigenous Peoples

Fun Projects for U.S. History

Jean Henrich, Writer

Dr. Aaron Willis, Project Coordinator
Rebecca Lamps, Graphic Designer

Social Studies School Service
10200 Jefferson Blvd., P.O. Box 802
Culver City, CA 90232
<http://socialstudies.com>
access@socialstudies.com
(800) 421-4246

© 2008 Social Studies School Service

10200 Jefferson Blvd., P.O. Box 802
Culver City, CA 90232
United States of America

(310) 839-2436
(800) 421-4246

Fax: (800) 944-5432
Fax: (310) 839-2249

<http://socialstudies.com>
access@socialstudies.com

Permission is granted to reproduce individual worksheets for classroom use only.
Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN: 978-1-56004-315-7

Product Code: ZP481



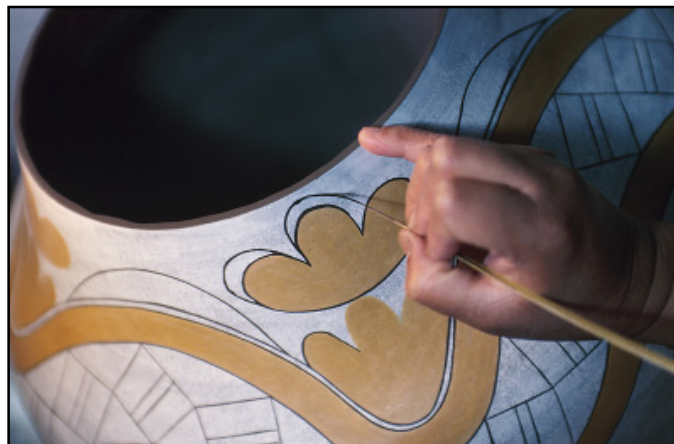
Indigenous Peoples

Welcome to an extensive collection of hands-on activities that focus on the outstanding achievements of North America's indigenous peoples. This book also comes with a CD-ROM featuring full-color presentations of each activity.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Overview	1
Longhouse (Northeastern Coast)	2–15
Parfleche (Plains)	16–23
Hopewell Copper Ornaments (Midwestern and Southeastern)	24–33
Mask and Headdress (Pacific Northwestern Coast)	34–48
Hopi Butterfly Maiden (Southwestern)	49–55
Split-Horn Headdress (Plateau)	56–64
Duck Decoy (Great Basin)	65–71
Rock Art (California)	72–80
Faux-Ivory Snow Goggles (Arctic and Subarctic)	81–86
Extension Activities for Graphics	87–90



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

GENERAL OVERVIEW

This collection of enrichment activities was designed to complement existing curricula and expand one's understanding of what it was like to live during the past. Studies have confirmed that using one's hands helps students retain information. If you are looking for creative and simple—yet stimulating and exciting—projects to spark learning, take the next step toward a highly engaging encounter.

Regardless of a student's age, learning by doing will help maintain their interest, improve retention of information, and foster a desire to learn now and in the future.

As an educator with 18-plus years of teaching and product development experience, it is my personal goal to encourage young people to be creative. Each of the activities included in this collection is based on actual artifacts and is representative of the era. A conscious effort was made to develop projects constructed from readily available materials that result in a stunning end product.

It is my heartfelt desire that both teacher and student will find the activities in this book a wonderful journey of creativity.

Jean Henrich

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE



Longhouse (Northeastern Coast)



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Make a Longhouse

Longhouses were magnificent shelters constructed by several tribes of what is now the northeastern coast of the U.S. Several family units from one extended family would live inside a single longhouse. Each family unit would have its own fireplace and living space separated by mats, woven rugs, or animal skins.



In this activity, you will re-create a model of a partially completed longhouse using vines or saplings, cornhusks, and bits of other natural objects. The most difficult part of this activity is constructing the frame; once completed, the rest of the process goes rather quickly.

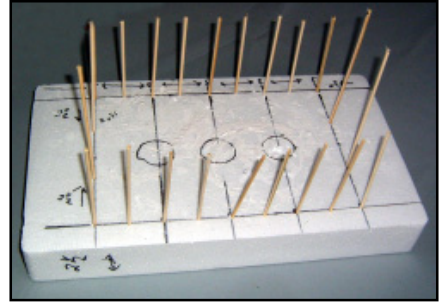
MATERIALS NEEDED

- Cornhusks
- **Hot glue gun and glue (ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED)**
- Scissors
- Bamboo skewers
- 1"-2" thick polystyrene (available at hardware stores)
- Plaid FolkArt® acrylic paint (yellow ochre, gray, brown, green, rust red)
- Paintbrush
- Small rocks or pebbles
- Several battery-operated tealights (available at craft and fabric stores)
- Activa Celluclay® instant papier-mache
- Natural materials, such as sand, moss, bark, and vermiculite
- Popsicle sticks
- Toothpicks
- Instant coffee
- Wire cutters
- Saplings or vines
- Brown spray paint
- Hemp cording or twine (optional)
- Glue stick
- Balsa wood (optional)
- White faux fur (optional)
- Color copier (optional)
- Teabag (optional)

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

1. MAKE THE BASE

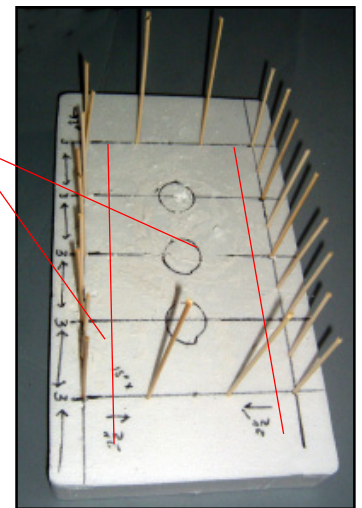
- Cut a piece of styrofoam 17" wide by 27" long by 2" deep. Cover the surface with Celluclay® instant papier-mache and let dry.



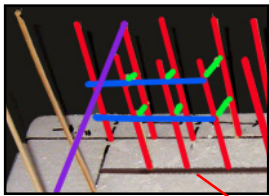
- **PLEASE NOTE:** The pictures to the right show how to design a longhouse with just three tealights. The actual version is twice this size and has five tealights (see bottom of page).

- Using a ruler, mark off 1½" sections—inset 1" from the long sides and 3" from the short—all the way around the polystyrene rectangle.

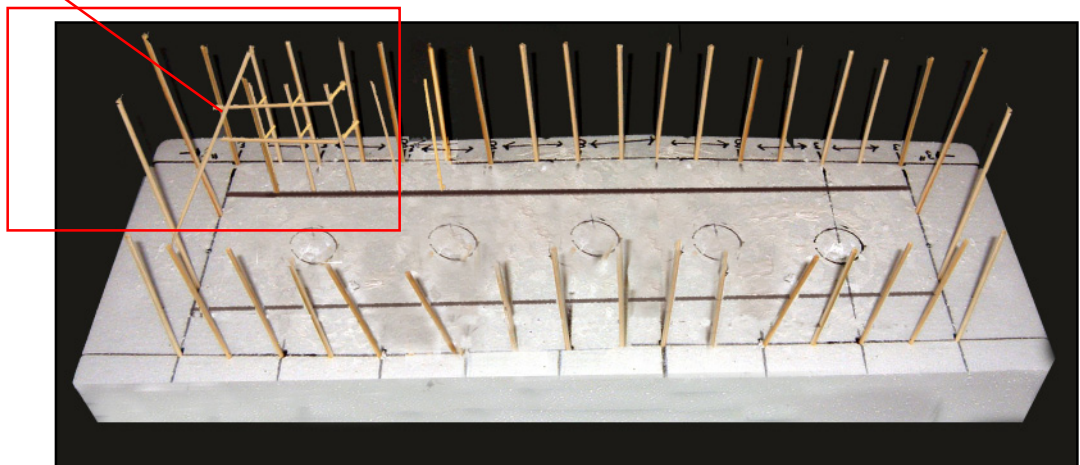
- Measure 2" in from each of the lengthwise rows and draw lines 3" apart. Where each of these lines would cross a line down the center, use a tealight to draw a circle.



- Carefully hollow out approximately 1" of styrofoam from each circle. Use any tool you desire, but make sure the hollows are deep enough so that only the very top of the tealight will show.



- Insert the skewers into the styrofoam (point down) at each outside mark (as illustrated below).

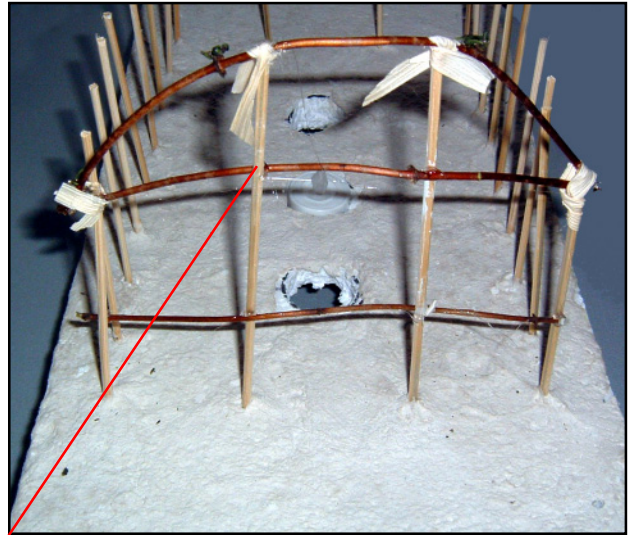


INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

2. MAKE THE FRONT OF THE FRAME

- **WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, use wire cutters to cut lengths of vine or thin green saplings.

- Bend the saplings over the front frame, and **WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, use hot glue to attach the saplings to the skewers. Use strips of cornhusk to assist you with this step.



- Weave the saplings or vines over and under the skewers on the front and back sections of the longhouse. **WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, use hot glue at the intersection points to help hold them in place.

- **HELPFUL HINT:** It is important to use green saplings or vines, since they bend more easily. Honeysuckle, willow, and pussy willow vines are ideal for this project.



- Starting at the bottom, and **WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, attach overlapping pieces of cornhusk to the frame with hot glue. You want the cornhusk layers to look uneven and rustic.



The picture at the upper left shows the outside of the front frame; the other shows the inside.

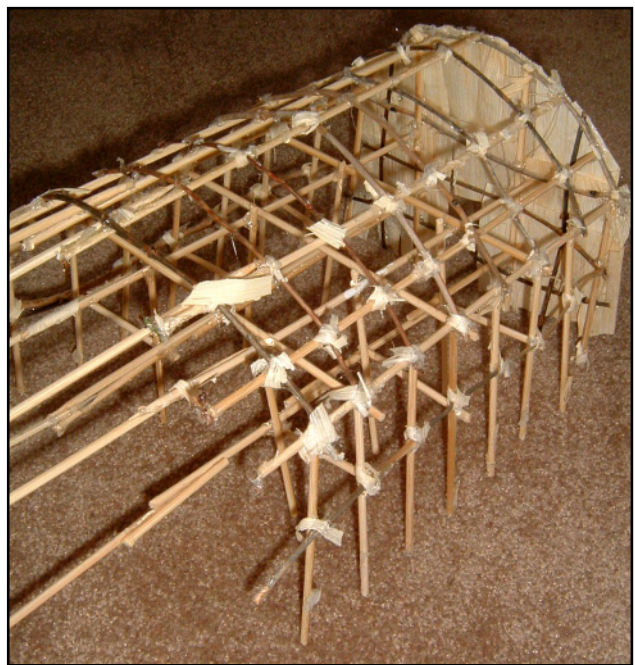
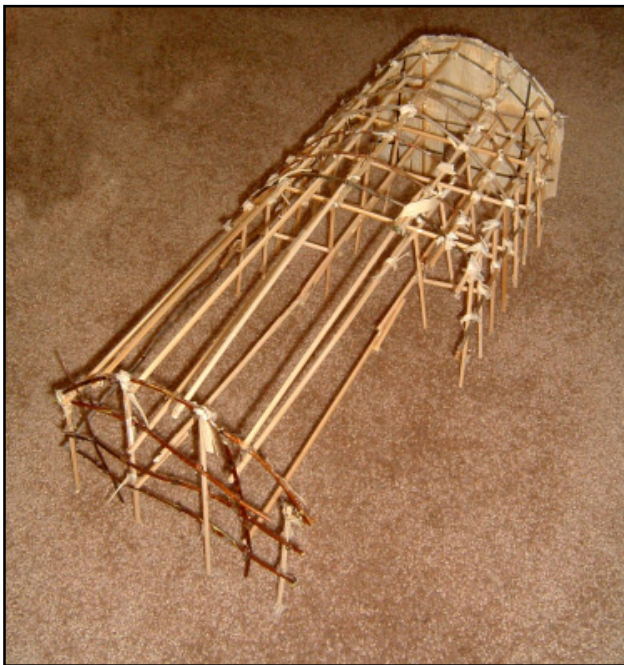
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

3. MAKE THE SIDES AND ROOF



- **WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, secure all the points where the saplings intersect with hot glue and strips of cornhusk. When the glue has dried and you have finished the frame, you can remove it from the styrofoam base. Trim the skewers at the bottom with wire cutters.

- The finished frame should appear something like the pictures on this page and the next.



This longhouse is approximately the length of two skewers with a 1" overlap.

