

CLASS PROJECT: THE MAKING OF A MISSION

Grade Levels: 3-5

10 minutes

CHIP TAYLOR COMMUNICATIONS 1998

DESCRIPTION

California's 21 historical missions provide the focus for two art projects. Boy scouts make adobe brick by hand and learn that it's very hard work. An elementary class uses a variety of materials for their creative models of the missions. Includes information about a mission's basic form, purpose, and impact on the area. Recommends viewers to try both projects.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

- 1. To introduce the missions of California.
- 2. To present ways to study and understand these historic missions.

VOCABULARY

- 1. adobe
- 2. heritage
- 3. ingredients
- 4. massive
- 5. mission
- 6. one-story

- 7. origins
- 8. padre
- 9. quadrangle
- 10. replica
- 11. settler

BEFORE SHOWING

- 1. Locate California on a map of the United States.
 - a. List the names of historic sites in the state.
 - b. Look for the names and locations of missions.
- 2. Discuss missions. List possible answers to each question. Review the list of questions and answers after showing.
 - a. What is a mission?
 - b. When were they built?
 - c. Who built them?
 - d. What was the purpose of a mission?
 - e. How many are still in use today?



AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

- 1. Check answers given to questions before showing. Revise answers, as needed, based on information from the video.
- 2. Discuss missions.
 - a. How are missions the living voices of a cultural heritage that is alive and with us?
 - b. How is visiting a mission like taking a step back in time?
 - c. How can studying missions help in learning how people lived and believed?
 - d. How can a person gain a sense of who they are by exploring their origins?
- 3. Discuss building a mission.
 - a. What three things did the Spanish padres look for before starting a mission?
 - b. Why did the padres depend on the Indians to build the missions?
- 4. Discuss adobe bricks.
 - a. What ingredients are needed to make adobe bricks?
 - b. How much time is required to make an adobe brick?
- 5. Discuss making models of missions.
 - a. What must be done before making a model of a mission?
 - b. Where can information about the individual missions be found?
 - c. What kind of imaginative materials can be used to make a model?
 - d. What information might be included in a written report about this project?

Applications and Activities

- 1. Make a model of a mission.
 - List a recipe of ingredients used to build the model such as could be found in a cookbook.
 - b. Describe how the model of the mission was built. Consider the following possible ingredients: lasagna noodles, red kidney beans, sugar cubes, cooked gingerbread and brown shoe polish
 - c. Make a fact chart about the mission to display with the model.
 - d. Find photos of an actual mission to use in construction of the model and to display along with the completed model.
- 2. Research missions in California.
 - a. Where are each of the twenty-one missions in California located?
 - b. What role did Spanish soldiers, the Franciscan Padres and the indigenous natives play in the building and use of missions?
 - c. How did these people live?
 - d. What did they believe?
- 3. Investigate missions in other locations throughout the United States and the world.
- 4. Plan a visit to a mission in California, another country or in the local community.

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Crayons and Markers #3596
- Easy Art Projects #3234
- Maskmaking with Paper #2369



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid-safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

PBS NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE WEST

http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/

The five main sections of this site are related to the PBS documentary series "The West." Offers an interactive biographical dictionary profiling important historical figures, information about important historic sites in the West and timeline charts of significant events.

AMERICAN MEMORY FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS DIGITAL LIBRARY

http://rs6.loc.gov/amhome.html

A gateway to rich primary source materials relating to the history and culture of the United States, offering more than 7 million digital items from more than 100 historical collections.

THE CALIFORNIA MISSIONS ON-LINE PROJECT

http://www.cuca.k12.ca.us/lessons/missions/missions.html

Covers all of the missions in California and includes information, photos and self-correcting quizzes on each of the individual missions.