

Teepee Talk

MATERIALS

FOR STUDENT: (one per student unless otherwise noted)

- FloraCraft® Make It: Fun® Foam Cone, 2 7/8" x 5 7/8"
- Cardstock or copy paper, 8 1/2" x 11", tan (to match paint)
- Cardstock, 2" x 3" of each: Yellow, red and orange (fire)
- Toothpicks, three
- Sticks, 3" lengths, six
- Pencil
- Washable black fine tip marker
- Scissors
- Paintbrush, medium
- Paint apron
- Tacky glue
- Paper plates, two
- Paper towel



FOR TEACHER:

- FloraCraft® Design It:® Wire Cutter
- Cardstock, 12" x 12" yellow, red and orange (can get twenty-four 2" x 3" pieces from each color sheet)
- Acrylic paint, Desert Sand
- Water bucket
- Paper towels
- Old newspapers or plastic tablecloth (optional)
- Plastic-lined garbage can
- Wet wipes
- Drying area
- Paper cutter
- Glue gun (for teacher only)

TEACHER PREPARATION

Note: Read through all the instructions first and check out the TIPS! Plan for two class sessions with drying time in between them. In the second session, have a glue gun plugged in and ready to use but out of student reach. This can give you immediate adhesion when you're in a hurry to help students. It is also recommended that you make a sample first, before preparing the materials for any others, since knowing how the parts fit, might affect how you prepare the rest of them.

[1] Open the packages of foam cones, one per student.

[2] Use a paper cutter to cut one 2" x 3" length of each of the three cardstock colors (red, yellow and orange) per student.

[3] Decide if you will have the students draw their own native symbols, based on the research they will do, or if you'll photocopy one sheet of symbols for each student.

Use a wire cutter to cut the tip off one end of

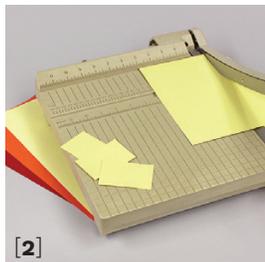
each of three toothpicks per student. Also, cut six 3" lengths of sticks for each student.

Put on a paper plate: Tacky glue, pencil, marker, scissors, cardstock pieces, three toothpicks, and six sticks. Put tan paper or photocopied symbols on tan paper, under the plate. Repeat for all students. (Set these plates aside since they won't be distributed until the second session.)

[4] On a separate plate for each student, set: Foam cone, paintbrush, and paper towel. Have paint nearby.



[1]



[2]



[3]



[4]

SOCIAL STUDIES

GRADE LEVEL
SECOND – THIRD

COMPLETION TIME

- 30 minute session (2 hours minimum drying time)
- 50 minute session

OBJECTIVES

- Students:
- Learn some of the background and customs of the Native Americans
 - Make a replica of a teepee
 - Understand that hand-drawn pictures are a form of storytelling and communication

STANDARDS

- Study the Native American Indian nations in their local region long ago and in the recent past
- Describe national identities, spiritual beliefs, customs, and various folklore traditions
- Consider the ways in which Native American traditions have left their mark on current society

LESSON INTRODUCTION

- Review the social studies information and timeline you're studying. Discuss the various types of shelter created by the Native Americans and how teepees were actually made, explaining that this is a replica. Also, mention the use of drawings for communication throughout history – from cave paintings and Native American drawings, to our modern use of text emojis.



makeitfuncrafts.com

INSTRUCTIONS

[1] Have the students wear their aprons and roll up their sleeves, explaining that this paint will not wash out of clothes. Squeeze paint onto each plate and have the students paint their cones, starting on the bottom. While the students paint, squeeze more paint onto their plates and distribute wet wipes as needed.

When they are finished, collect the brushes and put them into the bucket of water (until after class when they can be washed out). Have them write their names on their plates and set them in the drying area.



[2] Decide how much research you'd like the students to do, in finding Native American symbols used on their teepees and make the assignment.



NEXT SESSION

[3] Have the students remove their cones from their first plates and discard plates. Distribute the second plates of materials and have students draw their symbols in pencil on the tan paper, referring to research as needed. Have the students leave at least 1/4" space between symbols and encourage them to keep the symbols 1/2" – 3/4".

Then, have them carefully draw over their lines in fine tip marker.



[4] Have students insert the pointed ends of their toothpicks into the tops of their teepees, angled out like yours, to represent the branches used to hold up the teepee hides. They can draw a vertical line from about half way down, to the base, that represents the flap / opening in the teepee.

Demonstrate and have students cut apart each symbol, leaving space around it. Show how they can cut close to, but not right on the edge of the symbols, while still following the general shape. Then, they can glue on the shapes with tacky glue, spreading out the symbols. Explain that if they run short, they should focus on decorating the front more than the back.

Ask the students to put their names or initials on the bottoms of their teepees, using pencil or marker.



[5] Working on their paper plate, explain how the students can arrange their sticks, overlapping one another, to create a campfire. They should find the contact points of the sticks and glue them there. Then have the students cut flames from their colored cardstock. Ask them to put their initials on the back of one of the flames to identify their campfires. Then they can glue the bottoms of the flames among the sticks.



MODIFICATIONS

To simplify project:

- Spray paint all cones in a well-ventilated, newspaper-covered area (outdoors, inside a large box). Then, the project can be made in one class period.
- Photocopy symbols from pattern sheet onto tan paper so that the students don't have to draw them.

To expand project:

- Have students research and write information on how skins were processed, dried and painted and then hung from poles for teepees.
- Similarly, research the spiritual and cultural reasons for the teepee markings.

For multiple ages:

- Younger and older students can work side-by-side, with the younger students painting the foam cone and the older students researching and drawing the symbols.
- Older students can cut out the symbols and younger ones can glue them to the teepees.

ADDITIONAL IDEAS

- Let the students create a settlement with all of the students' teepees and campfires. Add sand and pebbles for paths, green moss for grass and trees with twigs for trunks.
- Have students research more about Native American Indian life and create other accents to go along with their teepees – such as a Native American family, horses, dogs, etc.
- Students can create videos of themselves explaining the research they've done or the meanings of the various symbols on their teepees and why they chose them.
- Students can write sentences using symbols to tell a story.



makeitfuncrafts.com

TIPS

- For safety, when cutting sticks and toothpicks, cut them inside a large paper bag, to catch the flying pieces.
- If paint seems a little thick, take a paintbrush and cup of water to each student's plate and drop a few drops of water onto their paint for them to mix.
- When the painting gets close to their fingers, give the students an extra toothpick to insert into the top, to temporarily hold while finishing the last few strokes.
- When students are cutting the small shapes, show them how to turn their paper back and forth as they cut.
- To help the symbols curve to the shape of the teepee, show students how to set a shape on the edge of the table, press it with their palm and slide downward, curling the paper. Be sure to curl it in the right direction for it to follow the curve of the teepee.

SYMBOLS



makeitfuncrafts.com



SUN



MOUNTAIN RANGE



RAIN CLOUDS



EAGLE



GECKO



CACTUS



ARROW



PEACE PIPE



TEEPEE



RAIN



SUN RAYS



EAGLE FEATHER



HORSE



SNAKE



SEASONS



MAN



THUNDER-BIRD TRACK



ARROW



CROSSED ARROWS



LIGHTNING



BEAR PAW