

Native American Fishing Lesson Plan



Summary

Content Area Social Studies/ELA

Grade Level Grades 1-2

Topic / Unit of Study Environmental consciousness as demonstrated by Native cultures.

Objective Students will be able to:

- Understand fish are part of the spiritual and cultural identity of many Native tribes throughout the United States.
- Recognize that Native American cultures greatly respect the earth, water, and natural resources.
- Learn that many things we use daily come from natural resources and that using these things impacts the Earth.

Duration 60 Minutes

Implementation

Materials

- [Gone Fishin' Cabin](#)*
- Natural Resources worksheet
- Colored pencils (optional)

Instruction

1. Assess prior knowledge by asking students if they have ever been fishing. Ask students to share what they know about how people hunt for fish.
2. Explain that many Native American tribes used fish for food and built shelters near food sources. Discuss what natural resources Native American nations used for food and hunting.
3. Allow students to take turns sitting inside the Gone Fishin' Cabin. Discuss what natural resources we use for food, shelter, and other purposes. Explain how natural resources can be gathered and used without harming the environment and why preserving the environment is important.
4. Return to the classroom or utilize outdoor tables if available. Have students pair up or work independently. Give each student or pair a Natural Resources worksheet.
5. Have students draw at least four items they use daily and identify which natural resource(s) are needed to create them.
6. When students are finished, discuss how we can minimize our impact on the environment while utilizing natural resources.

*If Gone Fishin' Cabin is not available, gather children outside to observe the surrounding landscape or use photographs.

Assessment

1. Students will recognize that many Native American tribes hunted fish for food and used natural resources for food, clothing, and shelter.
2. Students will identify natural resources commonly used to make many of the things we use daily.
3. Students will recognize that using these things impacts the Earth, and there are steps we can take to help reduce the impact.