

Picture Perfect Petroglyphs

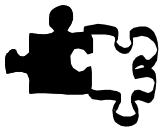
Chaco Culture National Historical Park Quarter

Grades Kindergarten and One



OBJECTIVE

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of petroglyphs to the Chaco culture. Students will describe an important event in their lives using petroglyphs.



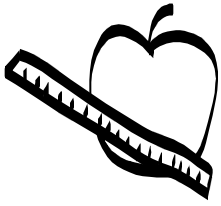
SUBJECT AREA CONNECTIONS

- Language Arts
- Social Studies



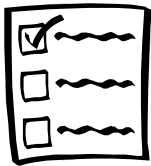
SUMMARY

1. Display and examine the Chaco Culture National Historical Park quarter design. Locate this site in New Mexico on a class map. As background information, explain to the students that the United States Mint began to issue the quarters in the America the Beautiful Quarters® Program in 2010. By the time the program ends in 2021, there will be a total of 56 designs on the back of the coin. Each design will focus on a different national site—one from each state, territory, and the District of Columbia
2. Visit the Chaco Culture National Historical Park web site to learn about the park and Chaco culture. Tell the students that the round shapes are actually great rooms, called Kivas. Long ago, the Chacoan people built these enormous stone buildings for gatherings. Display various images of Kivas. Explain to the students that these Great Kivas were used for ceremonies and important events. Tell students the Chacoan people would create a petroglyph to tell others about important events. Display various images of petroglyphs. Tell the students petroglyphs are symbols or pictures that people carved onto rocks to tell about an important event or idea. Petroglyphs may represent animals, people, or symbols of the Chaco culture.
3. Read a text about petroglyphs. Have the students create a petroglyph to communicate an important life event by using a pencil tip to “carve” a petroglyph onto the “Picture Perfect Petroglyphs” worksheet after they have colored it with crayon and paint in a different color. (Alternatively, the students could “carve” a petroglyph into a disposable Styrofoam lunch tray or clay.)
4. Explain to the students how petroglyphs are similar to signs used today (stop signs, telephone signs, bathroom signs, recycling signs, etc). Discuss how some are simple and some are more complex. Next have the students imagine how they can represent important events in their life without being able to read or hear details.



Picture Perfect Petroglyphs

Have the students write about the meaning of the petroglyph on a separate sheet of paper. Staple the petroglyph picture onto the writing along one edge. Display the completed petroglyphs as a bulletin board. The students can “guess” the important life event and then “check” to see if their guess is correct by reading the writing about the petroglyph.



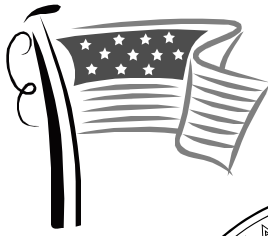
ASSESSMENTS

- Take anecdotal notes about the students’ participation in class discussions.
- Evaluate the students’ worksheets and projects for understanding of the lesson objectives.



RESOURCES

- “Chaco Culture National Historical Park Quarter” page
- “Picture Perfect Petroglyphs” worksheet
- America the Beautiful Quarters® Program: www.usmint.gov/kids/teachers/lesson-Plans/atb/
- National Park Service: www.nps.gov
- Chaco Culture National Historical Park: www.nps.gov/chcu/index.htm
- Chaco Culture National Historical Park Petroglyphs: www.nps.gov/chcu/photos-multimedia/Petroglyphs.htm
- Chaco Culture National Historical Park Petroglyph Trail: www.nps.gov/chcu/plan-yourvisit/petroglyph-trail.htm
- National Park Service “What Are Petroglyphs?”: www.nps.gov/petr/historyculture/what.htm
- Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park Petroglyphs: www.nps.gov/havo/photosmultimedia/puu-loa.htm



Name _____

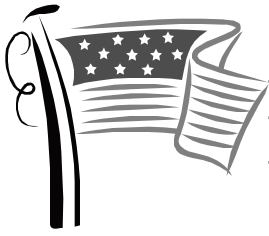
Picture Perfect Petroglyphs



Directions: Color the rock below heavily in crayon, then paint over the crayon with paint. Carve a petroglyph of an important event in your life into the rock.

Petroglyphs: Symbols or pictures that people carved into rocks to tell about an important event or idea.





Chaco Culture National Historical Park Quarter



The United States of America

