



Hastings Museum

of Natural and Cultural History

Search Activity

People on the Plains – Plains Indians

Grades 5th through 7th

Upper Level - Cultural History

1. Find the *Native Nebraska Animals* exhibit. Name two mammals and two birds which are important plains animals.

2. Find the *American Bison* exhibit. Name two ways Plains Indians used bison (buffalo) horn.

3. Name two things Native Americans made from bison hide.

4. Plains Indians were *Nebraska's First Farmers*. Find this exhibit and name three materials they used to make garden tools. _____

5. Name two foods Native Americans introduced to white people.

6. Many Plains Indians lived in two different kinds of homes. What were they?

7. Look at the *Pawnee Earthlodge* exhibit, name two objects found within.

8. How many people usually lived in one earth lodge? _____
9. Find the *Not as Different As You Might Think* exhibit. What Native American object is compared to a Boy Scout whistle? _____
10. Both Native American and European-American women wore beaded dresses. How were they different? _____
11. Look at the *Sioux* exhibit with the horse. What did the Sioux use to transport their belongings? _____
12. Look again at the *Sioux* exhibit and name three different materials Plains Indians used to decorate their clothing. _____
13. Who brought glass beads to America? _____

Answer Key

1. Mammals: coyote, beaver, prairie dog, ground squirrel, jackrabbit, pronghorn
Birds: prairie chicken, redtail hawk, great horned owl, western meadowlark, Swainson's hawk, prairie falcon.
2. Cups, fire carriers, spoons, ladles, storage boxes, rattles
3. Tipi covers, robes, bedding, straps, lacing
4. Stone, wood, bone, metal
5. Corn, pumpkins or squash
6. Tipis, earth lodges
7. Skin bed rolls, par fleches, rifles, arrows, dishes or bowls, clay pottery, fire place, kettle, skins or hides, blankets, skull, ponies, food, shield, people, dogs
8. 20 to 30
9. Sioux eagle wing bone whistle
10. Native American dress is made with leather and sewn by hand with sinew. European America dress is made from fabric and machine sewn with thread.
11. Travois
12. Shells, glass beads, metal, hair, porcupine quills, animal teeth
13. European Americans (white people)