



Museum of the West Exhibit Activity

Ute Weaponry Artifact Analysis

Overview: Students will analyze weaponry used by the Ute people and discuss how this weaponry demonstrates the adaptability and ingenuity of the Utes.

Grade: 3-5

Connection to Colorado Social Studies Academic Standards:

- 3rd grade: 1.1, 1.2
- 4th grade: 1.1, 1.2
- 5th grade: 1.1, 1.2

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- analyze artifacts from the Ute people
- discuss what the artifacts tell us about the Ute people

Vocabulary: weapon, projectile point, firearm, artifact

Before your Visit

Explain to the class that when they go to the museum, they will get to see a small exhibit on the Ute people who originally lived in the area before the settlers came.

Watch the following video:

Ute History documentary - Spirit of the Nuche (54min, 56 sec) <https://youtu.be/wPaeDxp5Ti8>

During your Visit

In the Native American Gallery, have students visit the display on Ute weaponry. Have students fill out an artifact observation form for 2-3 different artifacts in the display case.

After your Visit

Back in the classroom, have students share the different artifacts from the case that they decided to analyze. What types of artifacts did the class see? Why do you think there were a mix of technologies used by the Utes? What do the different artifacts tell the class about the Ute people?

Artifact Observation

An artifact is an object made by humans.

Name:

Draw the artifact

Describe the artifact

How was the artifact used? Could it have more than one use?

Does the artifact remind you of anything you use or see today?

Why did you choose this artifact?

What else do you want to know about the artifact?