

Sky City Cultural Center and the Architecture of Acoma Pueblo

LESSON PLAN : 2 of 5: Acoma Culture + Craft

Common Core Standard(s) Addressed:

CC.6.R.I.7	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas: Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
CC.6.W.1.b	Text Types and Purposes: Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
CC.6.W.2	Text Types and Purposes: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
CC.6.W.7	Research to Build and Present Knowledge: Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
CC.6.W.9	Research to Build and Present Knowledge: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
CC.6-8.R.ST.2	Key Ideas and Details: Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
CC.6-8.R.H.3	Key Ideas and Details: Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).

Learning Target(s):

Students will be able to:

- Investigate, discover, and describe the influence of history, geography, and craft/architecture on communities and cultures.
- Investigate, discover, and describe Pueblo culture and architecture.
- Investigate, discover, and describe aspects of sustainable design.
- Investigate, discover, and describe the essential building elements of any New Mexican architecture.
- Locate and map Acoma Pueblo and other pueblos.
- Demonstrate comprehension of economic and cultural sustainability as well as architectural sustainability.

Assessment:

Students will research and produce reports on pueblo culture, sustainability, and how those topics relate to their own communities.

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Instructional Plan:

1. Watch the online video Emergence: Sky City Cultural Center.
2. Review the pages on the website Sky City Cultural Center and the Architecture of Acoma Pueblo.
3. Answer the questions for each learning module (5 in this series).
4. Research and produce a report on any New Mexican Pueblo's culture, to include: history, geography, cultural information, craft traditions, architecture, and a map of the pueblo's location in the state of New Mexico.
5. Research and produce a report on favorite aspects of sustainable design introduced in this series. Explain how you might use it today in your own community.

Resources/Materials:

- Online Video: "Sky City Cultural Center + the Architecture of Acoma Pueblo"
- Website Text
- Bibliography

Reading Comprehension Questions:

- What do the people of Acoma call their village and where did that name come from?
- When are stories told at Acoma?
- What kinds of relationships do Acoma people have with their environment and landscape?
- Acoma is one of the Western Pueblos. They share some characteristics with several other communities. What are those other communities and where are they located?
- What language do the people at Acoma speak? What words in that language did you learn?
- What year do the history books note was the first time Acoma was visited by the Spanish? Who was it that came to see them?
- What caused Acoma to need to build a new village?
- When were the first sketches, models, and photographs taken of Acoma?
- How did Acoma first become known as a tourist destination? (hint: there were two major events that helped usher this in. What were they?)
- When the Americans came and took over New Mexico, the children from the Pueblos were forced to... The impact of that was...
- What are the roles of men and women in the building of homes?
- Why do most people at Acoma no longer live on the mesa full-time?

Acoma Pottery + Craft

- What was pottery traditionally used for?
- Why was the tradition of pottery brought back at Acoma?
- Are broken pieces of pots important? Why?
- Do the figures on Acoma pots mean anything? If so, what? Why would they use these figures on their pots?
- What are the three main other crafts that Acoma was known for?

Your World

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- What aspects of your culture are reflected in the architecture where you live?
- Are there specialized roles for men and women in the architecture of your community?