

## Sky City Cultural Center and the Architecture of Acoma Pueblo

### LESSON PLAN : 4 of 5: Chaco Ancestral Site

#### 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.

## Sky City Cultural Center and the Architecture of Acoma Pueblo

### 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:

- Name 5 modern Pueblos that attribute part of their ancestry to Chaco Canyon.
- Chaco's ancient roads connect it to...
- Did the environment play a role in why Chaco was settled at that place?
- What factors caused them to want to build there?
- What date were the great houses of Chaco built?
- How many stones were used in each great house?
- How long did people live there? Why did they leave?
- What aspects of design were used to help the buildings work with the sun and shed the cold winter winds?
- What are Chaco's essential Building Elements? Which is the one that was NOT used at Chaco that WAS used at Acoma?
- How many styles of stone masonry are used at Chaco and why are there different ones?
- How many trees did it take to build the great houses at Chaco?
- How far away did the Chacoans have to travel to get wood?
- What are the corner windows at Pueblo Bonito called and what was their purpose?
- Three types of agricultural fields were used in three different locations at Chaco. Describe each.
- What were the three main crops grown at Chaco?
- Are any of the methods of Chacoan agriculture used where you live today?
- Which ones? Are they growing the same things now that they were then?
- Did the Chacoans use irrigation? What kinds? Do these methods used nearly 1000 years ago relate to how irrigation is used in your community today?
- What is UNESCO and what work does the organization do?  
(requires outside research available online)