



ACTIVITY

CHECKLIST



Q2 • Storytelling Assembly Middle School • All School

Overview

Mainstream ideas of history often only include written documents explaining the past. However, New Mexico's cultures have diverse ways of remembering the past, particularly oral cultural traditions. These are valid ways of learning about and understanding New Mexico's roots. The experience of a recognized storyteller sharing a story can have a profound impact on students' sense of the validity of different cultural perspectives.

Before the Activity

- ☐ Determine whether to engage a professional New Mexico Storyteller or choose someone from your school community to be a storyteller and select a story from the book Old Father Storyteller
 - ☐ Find a Professional Storyteller
 - ☐ Use New Mexico Storytellers Directory
 - ☐ Find other storytellers through local resources: libraries, museums, etc.
 - ☐ Does the storyteller specifically tell stories about:
 - ☐ New Mexico or the Southwest
 - ☐ The American Revolution
 - ☐ Cultures present in New Mexico
 - ☐ Discuss the event with the storyteller
 - ☐ New Mexico Spirit 1776 Commemoration
 - ☐ When, where, who
 - ☐ Stipend Considerations
 - ☐ What is the storyteller's usual rate?
 - ☐ Are they local or do they need to travel?
- ☐ In classes, introduce oral storytelling as a cultural practice
 - ☐ Watch The power of sharing history through story-telling! Dan Nanamkin TEDxSpokane
 - ☐ Read independently the article 10 Questions: Storytellers Roberta Meyers and Ron Chávez
- ☐ Review General Audience Etiquette
 - ☐ Show Audience Etiquette by PBS
 - ☐ Discuss how different cultures have different ideas of what is respectful



ACTIVITY CHECKLIST



During the Activity

1. Introduction

- ☐ Explain cultural significance of storytelling in NM
- ☐ Introduce Storyteller

2. Activity

- ☐ Storyteller shares their audience rules
- ☐ Storyteller tells their story or stories
- ☐ Students listen to the storyteller
- ☐ Teachers model audience etiquette and remind students as needed

3. Closing

- ☐ Short Q&A if okay with Storyteller
- ☐ Thank students for their excellent audience etiquette

After the Activity

- ☐ Discussion or written reflection in class:
 - ☐ What does this story tell us about the culture of origin?
 - ☐ How does knowing this story help us better understand New Mexico?
 - ☐ How does the existence of this story enrich the United States?
 - ☐ What was it like to hear this story orally instead of reading it or watching a video?
- ☐ Thank you to storytellers
 - ☐ Teachers explain that thank yous are an important part of etiquette, especially if someone has volunteered, costing their time and resources
 - ☐ Each class collectively or individually create thank you notes to the story tellers
 - ☐ Collect thank you notes
 - ☐ Send as a packet from the whole school.