

NEW WORDS:

clams
strands
circulate
woven
language
loosely
willow
wands
repeated
specific
replicas
potlatches
felling
tallow
pitch
delicately
diameter
camouflage
chisel
adequate

BASKETS AND CANOES

Developed by the Coast Area Planning Committee

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA: Coastal Region

STORY TYPE(S): Description of Culture

Summary:

This story describes the different varieties of baskets and canoes used in the Northwest Coastal area. Each unique functional purpose is explained. The materials and tools used in creating baskets and canoes are all natural, given life through the elements of the earth mother.

The practicality and inventiveness of the Indian people of the Northwest is an underlying theme in this story. One can see how humans have adapted to their surroundings and how each is compatible with the other.

Teacher Guided Activities:



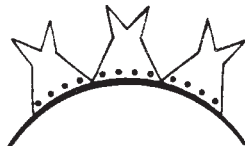
1. Ask students to think about what they have read about baskets and canoes. Have them look at page 7 of the story and try to imagine that they were a canoe of long ago.

For a creative writing exercise ask them to describe themselves as a war canoe, fishing canoe, or hunting canoe. Ask students to answer the following:

- What do you look like?
- Where do you go?
- What do you see, hear, taste, or smell?
- What kind of water are you moving through?
- What do you think about?
- Is something happening around you? And then what? Draw a picture of yourself as a canoe. Be sure to decorate yourself.



2. Break into Four Winds groups to make baskets using whatever materials are on hand. Use whatever methods seem practical for your students or that you have resources for (see Baskets Card).



3. Invite a local resource person to display baskets and possibly demonstrate how to make baskets using the resources from your community.

Student Activity Card(s):
See Baskets Card (25A-25B).