

# The Memorable Chiefs

*Developed by the Blackfeet Indians of the Blackfeet Reservation*

## **Geographical Area:** Plains Region

<b>Vocabulary:</b>	Piegans gestures mental vision crier	regalia portrayed sincerity encampment	memorable physical band consideration
--------------------	--	---	--

## **Reading Motivators:**

Discuss the qualities of being a good leader.

- a) Discuss the responsibilities of leadership of an Indian tribe in the past (i.e., leading the tribe in acquiring basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing, etc.).
- b) What would be required of that leader in the present (i.e., leading the tribe in business affairs)?

Read aloud a story of a famous chief, both past and present.

Ask a local tribal leader to relate personal stories of their past life and present responsibilities.

## **Discussion Topics:**

Discuss how achievements were recognized.

Discuss the leadership roles in the tribe and the family.

Discuss the importance of elders in tribal organizations.

Discuss the qualities of what would make a good leader. How might an individual earn a leadership position?

## **Follow-up Activities:**

1. Make a bulletin board showing good leadership characteristics and qualities. Use newspaper articles, pictures of leaders, etc.
2. Give a group a problem. Have the group devise a process to solve the problem.
3. Give students an issue/problem. Let them debate the issue and try to persuade others to follow (i.e., allow students to make and enforce their own classroom guidelines for a week).