

Grades: 9-12

Native America, Part 1: “From Caves to Cosmos”

NATIVE AMERICA is a four-part PBS series that challenges everything we thought we knew about the Americas before and since contact with Europe. It travels through 15,000-years to showcase massive cities, unique systems of science, art, and writing, and 100 million people connected by social networks and spiritual beliefs spanning two continents. The series reveals some of the most advanced cultures in human history and the Native American people who created it and whose legacy continues, unbroken, to this day. The series explores this extraordinary world through an unprecedented combination of cutting-edge science and traditional indigenous knowledge. It is NATIVE AMERICA as never seen before-featuring sacred rituals filmed for the first time, history changing scientific discoveries, and rarely heard voices from the living legacy of Native American culture. In Part 1: Combine ancient wisdom and modern science to answer a 15,000-year-old question: who were America's First Peoples? The answer hides in Amazonian cave paintings, Mexican burial chambers, New Mexico's Chaco Canyon and waves off California's coast.

After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning

Question Box 1

- What are some of your questions about this episode?
- What are the most important details in this program?
- What are some words in the program that you are unclear about?
- What is the author's purpose for creating this program? What is your evidence for this?
- Who were America's first peoples?
- What evidence was used to make the determination?
- How were Amazonian cave paintings and Mexican burial chambers used to determine who America's first peoples were?
- How were geological features such as canyons and wave patterns used to answer the question of America's first peoples?

Question Box 2

- How would you respond if you found artifacts or evidence of previous cultures living in your area?
- What was one section of the episode that stood out for you and why?
- What do you think you learned from this program?
- What about the show stood out to you?
- Who do you think were America's first peoples?
- What evidence from the show was the most convincing, in your opinion?

Box 3 (Tasks)

- Create a replica of an Amazonian cave painting on paper or digitally.
- Create a replica of a Mexican burial chamber. Try using something from home and consider recycling some materials to create this.
- Go to pbs.org/nativeamerica
 - Compare the Native American timeline to a timeline of Early California, Early America, or another country you've studied. What similarities and differences do you see?

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- Explore the interactive map <http://www.pbs.org/native-america/extras/interactive-map/>
- Select three artifacts that are shown. If you were an archeologist how far would you have to travel to see each artifact?
- Research Zuni Maps. How are they made? What are they comprised of? Create a Zuni Map of your own life that tells your story.

Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)

- In this episode they used past communication (cave paintings) and modern science to identify who America's first people were.
- Imagine the year is 2520
 - What types of communication would scientists have to study?
 - What kind of answers could they find with it?
- Make a historical timeline of the forms of communication starting with cave paintings ending with our current forms of communication.
 - If you're stuck, watch this video and try to identify each type of communication presented: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDkxsNmKDGk>
- Many of today's communication tools are made possible by professionals who work in the Information Communication Technology (ICT) industry. Brainstorm a list of possible ICT careers.
- How accurate was your list?
 - Click this link: <https://www.cacareerzone.org/clusters/CA11> to see careers in ICT
 - Select one career from the list that interests you and click on it.
 - What career did you select?
 - Write down some skills, duties, and statistics that you find interesting.
 - Watch any videos that are available.
- Would you consider a career in the field of ICT? Why or why not?
- Share what you have learned with a family member.
- Social-Emotional Connection: Native Americans were early practitioners of mindfulness believing that people are connected to the earth and all living things. Grounding is a great exercise to connect to the world around you and helps with stress and worry. For this grounding exercise, concentrate on where you are in the moment. Then write down the following:

EMPIRE

K V C R



Ted Alejandre, County Superintendent

San Bernardino County

Superintendent of Schools

Transforming lives through education

- 5 things you see
- 4 things you hear
- 3 things you smell
- 2 things you can touch
- 1 thing you taste