

Title:

The Price of Promises not Kept

Grade Level:

High School, Grades 9-12, ELL Sheltered English Advanced

Theme

Importance of sacred land

Duration

2 Days

Goal

Students will gain an understanding of the history surrounding the Lakota loss of sacred land in the Black Hills and the purchase of Pe'Sla in 2012.

Objectives:

Students will be able to identify why Paha Sapa is important, how the Paha Sapa were taken from the Lakota and the circumstances surrounding the purchase of Pe' Sla.

Common Core Language Arts Standards:

Reading:

RI.9-10.4 Determine the meaning phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choice

RI.9-10.1, RL.9-10.1 Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text

Speaking:

SL.9-10.1 Initiate and participate in discussions with diverse partners

L.9-10.6 Acquire and use academic and domain-specific language; listen at a career level; gather vocabulary knowledge

Cultural Concept

The concept of the importance of land to the Lakota people-specifically Paha Sapa (The Black Hills).

Cultural Background

According to Dr. Craig Howe in the introduction in He Sapa Woihanble: Black Hills Dream, "He Sapa is the spiritual and homeland of the Oceti Sakowin, the Seven Council Fire people . . ." (p. 3) Wind Cave, found in He Sapa (Paha Sapa), is where most spiritual leaders believe the Lakota emerged onto the surface of the Earth. (Howe, p. 9) Another landmark of significant importance to the Lakota is Bear Butte, Mato Paha. According to the Sacred Lands Film Project, Mato Paha has long been used for ceremonies, vision quests and tribal meetings.

Student Activities

1. Students will journal about a time when they were promised something or given something and that promise was broken or the gift was taken back.
2. Students will discuss their journals in small groups.
3. A few students will be asked to share their journals with the class.
4. We will then have a class discussion about some of the emotions felt because of the experience they journaled about and why they might have felt those emotions.

5. Students will then watch a PowerPoint presentation introducing them to the Oceti Sakowin, Ft. Laramie Treaty, Custer, the discovery of gold and the loss of the Black Hills.
6. Students will complete a guide as the PowerPoint is presented.
7. Students will then read “Tribes Reach \$9 Million Goal and Purchase Site of Pe’ Sla” as a class
8. Students will then complete comprehension questions.
9. We will discuss questions as a class.

Resources

PowerPoint presentation, guide to use during PowerPoint, Article “Tribes Reach \$9 Million Goal and Purchase Site of Pe’ Sla,” questions

Assessment

Journals, study guides, comprehension questions,

References

Schilling, V. (2012, November 30). Tribes Reach \$9 Million Goal and Purchase Sacred Site of Pe' Sla. Retrieved from <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2012/11/30/tribes-reach-9-million-goal-and-purchase-sacred-site-pe-sla-146015>

Developer

Michele Blair

Michele.blair@k12.sd.us

Date

24 July 2014