Title
Integrity: A Lakota Value.

Theme
Integrity as a value in Lakota culture.

Duration
One hour-long session.

Goal
Students will gain an understanding of the value of integrity (or honor) in Lakota culture.

Objectives
Students will be able to:
• Define integrity as a value in Lakota society.
• Give examples of how integrity functioned as a value in Lakota society.
• Apply the value of integrity in their own lives.

Cultural Concept
Integrity as a behavior or trait was highly valued in Lakota culture.

Cultural Background
Traditional Lakota society is based on a highly ordered system of morality, which draws from the Lakota religion and its precepts. Out of a holistic view of the universe, where everything is connected and everything is sacred, comes the requirement that Lakota people behave and act in certain ways, engendering a system of values of what it means to be a good Lakota. These cultural values included, among other values: integrity, respect, courage, wisdom, humility, generosity, and compassion. We will focus on integrity as a specific value that will be of interest to a wide audience.

Student Activities
• Students will read an excerpt from Joseph Marshall III’s book on the value of integrity/honor, or, read an excerpt from the “Values of Dakota Society” from the course packet.
• Large group activity: come up with a consensus definition of integrity, based on the reading
• Answer the questions: in Lakota culture, how might a man act with integrity/honor? How might a woman act with integrity/honor?
• Read excerpts from Waterlilly and The Journey of Crazy Horse.
• Have people move around to match up with someone they’re not sitting next to.
• In pairs, come up with traits or examples of integrity from Waterlilly or The Journey of Crazy Horse.
• Write up examples on the board.
• For 3-5 minutes at the end of the session, have everyone write about how they might apply the Lakota examples of integrity in their own lives.

Resources
• Whiteboard: for writing examples of integrity in Lakota society.
• Reading excerpts.
• Pen and paper.
References

Assessment
The reflection paper from the last activity in class will be the formal assessment.

Developer
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Date
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Additional Information
Some definitions of Lakota words for the English word *integrity*:
*Owothanla*: to be straight; to be upright, to have integrity, be honest, just candid, outright, fair. (from New Lakota Dictionary, 2008)
OR
From Joseph Marshall III (Sicangu/Oglala Lakota):
*Wayuonihan* - "To have integrity, to have an honest and upright character." (honor)

Note: This is the first in a series of lesson plans on traditional Lakota values. Further sessions will cover other values in Lakota society such as respect, courage, wisdom, humility, generosity, and compassion.