"*Cache*"

Resource Summary: The discovery of a cache of items on the island of San Nicolas was a very exciting event for researchers studying the soil of the island. Such a treasure trove of items gives us many insights into the ways and habits of a people such as the Chumash. Students will each make a relic and hide it in the classroom. When their relic that they worked so hard on is taken by another student, it will prompt insight into the complexity of dealing with antiquities and how to best handle disputes regarding ownership.

Subject Areas: Language Arts, Social Studies, History

Grade Level Range: 9-12

Standards: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.7
Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.9
Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.

Resource Provided By: Valerie Trenev, 5th grade, Alice Shaw Elementary School, Orcutt Union School District

Resource Details:

Concept: Different cultures can clash due to a grab for resources, misunderstandings and fear. Let's role play and debate the different sides of the issue. Through this activity, we can explore the ways cultures can come together for the good of both civilizations.

Title: Ownership is 9/10 of the Law

Anticipatory Set: view the WOTW tale: Cache

Objective: After viewing the tale, students each make a relic on an index card, or out of supplied art materials. Divide the class in half, and have a mock invasion where the students' relics are stolen.

Materials: DVD: *West of the West*, index cards; optional: art supplies (markers, glitter, glue, foil, clay or Play Dough)

Modeling/Guided Practice: Day One:

Teacher explains the value and significance of items that were found in the cache.

Students Make Relic

The teacher has the students make a relic either by drawing one on an index card or by using art materials provided.

Mock Invasion – divide class in half.   Half the class needs to hide their relics around the classroom. The other half of the class needs to come in and find the relics. Switch roles. Invaders hide their relics and the victims find the hidden relics.

Mock art show – Teacher assigns random value to the pieces. Everyone share what they ended up with. People whose valuable artifacts were taken need to say why the artifacts should be returned to them. People who took the artifacts need to explain why the artifacts should not be returned.

Day Two:

Debate: Class divides into two new groups for a debate. Each group should have members from both those who benefited from the invasions and those who lost valuable pieces. People whose valuable artifacts were taken need to say why the artifacts should be returned to them. People who took the artifacts need to explain why the artifacts should not be returned.

Teacher acts as a moderator taking opening statements from each side, and inviting rebuttal from the opposing side. Points are awarded for valid arguments and valid rebuttals.

Independent Practice/Guided Practice:

Closing Activity: Students write a short essay on how it felt to be on the side they were on and offer suggestions for whether the pieces should be returned. What happens when countries don't value their art pieces or valuable items as what happened in the Middle East recently? (Militants destroyed statues that were thousands of years old.) What should we do about sunken ships that have been recovered? Should the valuables onboard be returned to the country from which the ship sailed? Should the treasure hunters keep the treasure? Should the country that the ship-wreck is closest to own the valuables?

Additional Resources:

Read article about group of archaeologists petitioning Great Britain for Egyptian antiquities.

Read about Spanish sunken treasure off the East Coast and how it will be decided in court who gets the gold.

Article – Los Angeles Times – Pechanga Indian Tribe and The Lost Woman Artifacts