

“First Contact”

Resource Summary: “Telling Your Own Story”

Subject Areas: Social Studies, Language Arts

Grade Level Range: 4th-6th

Standards:

CCSS.ELA-Speaking & Listening SL 4.2, 4.3, 5.2, 5.3, 6.2, 6.3

Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Resource Provided By:

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Resource Details:

Step I: View the tale and respond to the discussion guide.

Discussion Guide:

1. What was the purpose of rebuilding the *San Salvador*?
2. What were some of the struggles with rebuilding the ship?
3. What are some of the characteristics of sailors on the *San Salvador*?
4. Why was it important to build a “thing” to tell the “origin story?”
5. Do you think it counts as cheating using modern resources and electricity? Why or why not?
6. Why do you think the Native Americans were supportive of the rebuilding of the *San Salvador*?

Step II: Create and design your own origin story that embodies the sense of who you are.

The tale includes the story of rebuilding the *San Salvador* and the symbolism of rebuilding Cabrillo’s ship. Have students brainstorm what artifacts would be important when looking back at their own lives. You may choose to use the following quotes from the movie as a guide, “We are trying to say who we are by saying where we came

from,” or “If you have a story to tell, what’s the best way to represent it? And frequently it is with an artifact or object. Something people can touch, that they can feel.” What artifact would best symbolize their life? Students can design and build or write about what artifact they chose to best house their own story.

Some examples might include:

- Interviewing family members and creating an oral history.
- A model structure of something that symbolizes either their family or personal history. Could include references to personal interests or personal or family occupation.

Additional Resources:

Link to the San Diego Maritime Museum's *San Salvador*: <https://sdmaritime.org/visit/the-ships/san-salvador/#>