

Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center

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This lesson was created by a teacher participating in a Wisconsin ESEA Improving Teacher Quality grant entitled Inquiry Based Technology-Mediated Teacher Professional Development and Application.

Title: Culture Challenge

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Grade Level: 4-8

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Objectives: The students will be able to identify and classify characteristics of the four

pre-European cultures in Wisconsin

Duration: 20-25 minutes

Materials/Supplies: One set of cards for each group of 4 students, one score sheet per group

Vocabulary: All words/terms used should already be familiar to the students.

Background: -The teacher will need to know the simple rules for the game, as well as

which characteristics belong to which culture.

-The background information the students will need will have been

presented/discovered in previous lessons.

Setting the Stage: The lessons from Intrigue of the Past and Digging and Discovery that

focus on the four cultures, will be used to prepare the students to

participate in this activity.

Procedure: The students will be grouped by lab station. (4 students per group)

Procedure and rules will be explained:

1. There are four colored cards – each has the name of one of the cultures

on it. Set them next to each other in the middle of the table.

2. Each card in the deck of cards contains one characteristic of one of the

four cultures.

3. Shuffle the cards and turn them face down, in one pile, in the middle of

the table, next to the culture cards.

4. Each player will take a turn.

- 5. Turn the top card of the deck face up, read the characteristic and decide which of the cultures it BEST describes. Place the card on that culture.
- 6. Discussion among the group may occur AFTER the card is placed by the player.
- 7. If it is decided by the group that the card describes a different culture, it may be moved. Moving a card may only occur once.
- 8. When all cards have been placed, notify the teacher that the group is finished.
- 9. Characteristics will be shared for comparison by the class. Use tally marks to record the number of correct responses per culture.
- 10. Total the number of correct responses per culture. Make sure the names of all players in your group are at the top, and hand it in to the teacher.

Closure: As the characteristics are shared by the entire class, discussion will occur

about the validity of the choices. The students will be encouraged to defend their choices using knowledge, notes, resources they have

available.

Evaluation: The tally sheet will provide hard copy evaluation. Discussion among the

groups, as well as class discussion will provide the teacher with evaluation

data.

Links/Extension: It will already have been linked to Social Studies and Language Arts as an

integrated unit.

## Culture Cards

Paleo	Archaic	Woodland	Oneota

Characteristic Cards			
Paleo	Archaic	Woodland	Oneota
10,000-8,000 BC	8,000-500 BC	500-1000 AD	1000-1600 AD
12,000 ya	9,000 ya	2,500 ya	1,000 ya
Clovis points	Raddatz points	Waubesa points	Madison points
glaciers	annual gathering	sand tempered pottery	shell tempered pottery
mastodon, mammoth	deer, elk	squash, berries	corn, beans, squash
migratory	nuts, berries	deer, elk, fish	deer, elk, fish

shift in climate	rock art	seasonal migration	bone beads
mass extinction	atlatls	annual gathering	copper pendants
boreal forests	burial pits	cord marked pots	pots with handles
no shelters	large family group	mound builders	bell shaped containers
several family groups	poor dental health	dogs as pets/food	villages
earliest type of point found in North America	Copper Culture	thick walled pots	mound builders

	Score Sheet			
	Paleo	Archaic	Woodland	Oneota
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				