



**Ancestral Artifacts: Museum Stewardship & the Wisdom of Elders**  
**“Shoshone Parfleche”**  
**K – 2nd Grade**  
**Lesson Plan #2**

**LESSON PLAN DEVELOPED BY:** Ann Abeyta – Eastern Shoshone  
Reviewed by George Abeyta, Zedora Enos and Robyn Rofkar at the Eastern Shoshone Cultural Center

**COMMON CORE STANDARDS ADDRESSED IN LESSON:**

(See Standard Definition at end of lesson)

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1 - Comprehension and Collaboration  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1.A - Comprehension and Collaboration  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1.B - Comprehension and Collaboration.  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1.C - Comprehension and Collaboration  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2 - Comprehension and Collaboration.  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.3 - Comprehension and Collaboration  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.4 - Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.5 - Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

**WYOMING STATE STANDARDS ADDRESSED IN LESSON:**

Wyoming Social Studies Standards (2018)

(See Standard Definitions at the end of the lesson)

**K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

**Social Studies Content Standard 2 - Culture and Cultural Diversity**

SS2.2.1 - SS2.2.2

**Social Studies Content Standard 4 - Time, Continuity, and Change**

SS2.4.2

**Social Studies Content Standard 5 - People, Places, and Environments**

Human Place and Movement

SS2.5.3

Environment and Society

SS2.5.4

**DURATION:** 2 Class Periods

**PBS VIDEO:** “Shoshone Parfleche”

**MATERIALS REQUIRED:**

1. Handout of Activity #1 for Video note taking
2. Handout of Activity #2 Sorting Pictures of Parfleche
3. Wyoming PBS Video-Shoshone Parfleche



4. Smart board to display Parfleche information
5. List of questions for the teacher to ask students.
6. Chart Paper and Marker for Whole Group discussion and Answering questions
7. Final Assessment

### **KEY VOCABULARY:**

Parfleche, Storage, Dried Meat, Eastern Shoshone, Rawhide, Environment

### **DESCRIPTOR:**

Students will listen and draw pictures while watching “Shoshone Parfleche” video then complete an activity sheet to illustrate their understanding of how parfleche was used.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

**Objective 1:** Students will explain how parfleche was used in the past and how it is used today. Students will compare parfleche to other storage containers used in modern day living.

**Objective 2:** Students will identify how parfleche was made from elk, deer and bison and was a part of adjusting to their environment. Students will identify how the use of parfleche made life easier for the Eastern Shoshone people.

### **LESSON INTRODUCTION:**

Teacher will say:

*“Have you ever tried to take a trip without a suitcase? Have you ever tried to take your lunch to school without a lunchbox? Have you ever wondered what Native American people did to carry their belongings when they traveled or what they stored their items in? Tribes adjusted to their environments making use of the resources available to them. We are going to learn about parfleche and how parfleche was important in the everyday lives of the Eastern Shoshone tribe.”*

### **STEP BY STEP PROCEDURE:**

#### **Day 1**

1. The teacher will introduce the 2-day lesson to the class. *“Students we will be learning about the Eastern Shoshone tribe and how they carried items daily as well as when they traveled.”*
2. The teacher will give instructions to students. Teacher will say, *“Today you will watch a 3-minute Wyoming PBS Eastern Shoshone Parfleche video. As you watch the video, closely view the objects in the video. As you are watching the video, remember what you see and draw pictures or write words to help you remember what you see and hear.”*
3. The teacher will distribute copies of Activity 1 Handout.
4. The Teacher will read the following to the entire class:  
*“The Eastern Shoshone people used containers of rawhide called Parfleches. The Eastern Shoshone Parfleche was of various sizes as well as the basic storage and moving containers for the tribe: not to mention other tribes throughout the Rocky Mountain and Plains region. The word “Parfleche” is of doubtful origin; but was used as early as the 1700’s. The Eastern Shoshone also stored pemmican (dried meat) inside a Parfleche. Like most other articles used by the Eastern Shoshone People, the Parfleche was handsomely decorated with geometric designs or the Shoshone Rose.”*

Copied from Eastern Shoshone Culture Center-Parfleche Display



5. The teacher will play the 3-minute video and allow 5 minutes after the video for students to finish writing words and drawing pictures on their note taking handout.
6. The students will work on Activity sheet #1, either individually or the teacher can display the sheet on an overhead or from the lesson plan on the computer screen. Students can verbally share with the teacher and class their answers/ and or drawings.
7. The teacher will have all the students come together as a whole group and discuss what they noticed from the video.
8. The teacher will ask the following questions:
  - What do you think parfleche means?*
  - What do you think parfleche is made from?*
  - How do you think parfleche is made?*
  - What did the Eastern Shoshone people use parfleche for?*
  - Do you think parfleche made life easier for them? If so, Why?*
  - Why did the Eastern Shoshone people put designs on the parfleche?*
  - What do you think they used for the paint on the parfleche?*
11. The teacher will record the students' answers on a chart.

## **Day 2**

1. The teacher will remind students of the activity they did the prior day.
2. The teacher will hand out glue, scissors and copies of Activity #2 (sorting Parfleche In the Past and Containers In Modern Day Containers) and display on Smartboard (whiteboard, etc.)
3. Students will cut out pictures and place them under the correct heading. The teacher will check for understanding and go over each item and discuss with the students.
4. The teacher will read "*How is Parfleche Made*" and "*How Parfleche is used by Some Enrolled Eastern Shoshone members today*" and display each step on a overhead. (have students read along with you).
5. The teacher will facilitate the class and compare the answers they had for day 1 and compare them to the answers on Day 2. If there are any incomplete or incorrect answers, the teacher will share the correct information with the class.



**ASSESSMENT:**

**Students will take the provided assessment to check understanding of parfleche. (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) – (K-1 can do whole group answers)**

| Question                             | Answer | Possible Points 5 | Points Earned |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|---------------|
| Name 5 Ways Shoshones Used Parfleche | 1.     |                   |               |
| Draw a Picture or Write              | 2.     |                   |               |
|                                      | 3.     |                   |               |
|                                      | 4.     |                   |               |
|                                      | 5.     |                   |               |



## **ACTIVITY #1 - HANDOUT - Parfleche Video**

**Name:**

Directions:

1. List on the lines as many words you hear explaining about Parfleche during the video.
2. Draw inside the boxes pictures of what you see about Parfleche during the video.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |



## **Activity #2- Handout #1 - How was Parfleche Used in the Past?**

### **Handout #1-Parfleche in the Past and Containers Modern Day**

**Directions:** Sort the pictures in the correct category

| <b>Parfleche In the Past</b>                 | <b>Containers In Modern Day</b>              |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Food Container</b>                        | <b>Food Container</b>                        |
| <b>Purse for Sewing items</b>                | <b>Purse</b>                                 |
| <b>Parfleche for clothing</b>                | <b>Suitcase</b>                              |
| <b>Saddle Bags to Carry Items on a Horse</b> | <b>Saddle Bags to Carry Items on a Horse</b> |
| <b>Bow and Arrow Case</b>                    | <b>Gun Case</b>                              |

## Handout #2 for Activity #2

Directions: Cut and sort under correct heading for Parfleche (Handout #1 - Containers used by Native Americans or Containers used today.)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p>Purse</p> <p><a href="https://jmsellsar.click/product_details/81506399.html">https://jmsellsar.click/product_details/81506399.html</a></p>                                                                |  <p>Parfleche Food Bag</p> <p><a href="https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&amp;sca_esv=81be61c3dad309e5&amp;channel=mac_bm&amp;sxsrf=AE3TifOTIcwBECQWlySs2G8ZY2a18_VrGA:1758189948816&amp;q=Lakota+style+parfleche+food+container+for+sale&amp;sa=X&amp;ved=2ahUKEwiC-uL6h-KPAxVNBzQIH9NKf4Q1QJ6BAGfEAE&amp;biw=1152&amp;bih=480&amp;dpr=2">https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&amp;sca_esv=81be61c3dad309e5&amp;channel=mac_bm&amp;sxsrf=AE3TifOTIcwBECQWlySs2G8ZY2a18_VrGA:1758189948816&amp;q=Lakota+style+parfleche+food+container+for+sale&amp;sa=X&amp;ved=2ahUKEwiC-uL6h-KPAxVNBzQIH9NKf4Q1QJ6BAGfEAE&amp;biw=1152&amp;bih=480&amp;dpr=2</a></p> |
|  <p>Saddle Bags</p> <p><a href="https://www.etsy.com/listing/">https://www.etsy.com/listing/</a></p>                                                                                                          |  <p>Modern Luggage</p> <p>Photo by Andrea Abeyta</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|  <p>Parfleche Box</p> <p><a href="https://hood.resourcespace.com">https://hood.resourcespace.com</a></p>                                                                                                    |  <p>Parfleche Cylinder Case</p> <p><a href="https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/shopping?q=tbn:ANd9GcSwHXFz22VIRhLBmxKVQUBnzzqAlo9Kqhrp-5c38rQz_fzufpWPQMdoCZwVvWWLLxbYqxx7fAg">https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/shopping?q=tbn:ANd9GcSwHXFz22VIRhLBmxKVQUBnzzqAlo9Kqhrp-5c38rQz_fzufpWPQMdoCZwVvWWLLxbYqxx7fAg</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|  <p>Parfleche Envelopes(Saddle Bags)</p> <p><a href="https://www.donaldellisgallery.com/offerings/plains/category/parfleche">https://www.donaldellisgallery.com/offerings/plains/category/parfleche</a></p> |  <p>Modern Gun Case</p> <p>Photo by Michelle Hoffman</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|  <p>Modern Food Containers</p> <p><a href="https://www.google.com/search?q=Modern+Containers">https://www.google.com/search?q=Modern+Containers</a></p>                                                     |  <p>Parfleche Purse</p> <p><a href="https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcR3TJfLZ3ZsxbuB9Tbkfp7h7mxutZGwec2RlmNFo8RODrRr-LSVlnOk&amp;usqp=CAE&amp;s">https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcR3TJfLZ3ZsxbuB9Tbkfp7h7mxutZGwec2RlmNFo8RODrRr-LSVlnOk&amp;usqp=CAE&amp;s</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |



Display and read together as a class.

### **Process for making Parfleche**

1. Take hide off animal.



<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:AND9GcQochoYxi7DqolPx2FrQck42aiUK4f1ZOhyMFUs5BNeiV3pOQiT5zfo&usqp=CAE&s>

2. Take the meat off the hide.



Photo by Andrea Abeyta

3. Soak the hide in clean water until hair comes off easy.



Photo by Andrea Abeyta

4. Scrape hair off the hide.



<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9Gct5RHKu1XDpvA3PUvhL7ZZKR5QPrb71X1YczA&s>



*Shoshone Hide Scraper- Eastern Shoshone Cultural Center*

5. Stretch the hide to dry.



Photo by Corn Abeyta

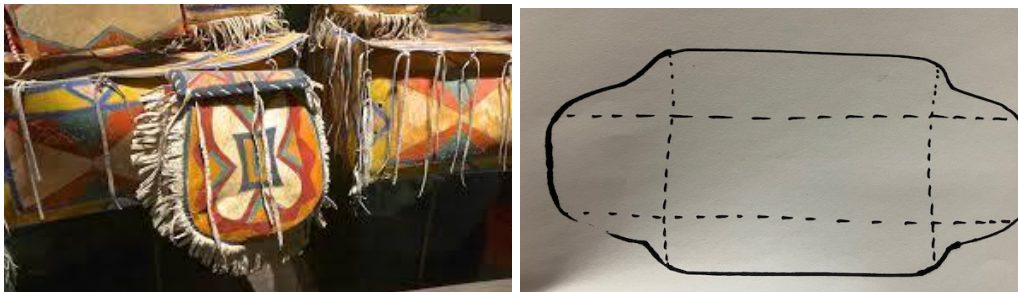
6. Paint hide with natural pigment paint and hide glue (Soak the hide while mixing paints)



Hide Glue

<https://encrypted-tbn1.gstatic.com/shopping?q=tbn:ANd9GcSkOGu7hkPHfMcKP4rBWJvkiMvZDO28R-kni2nH-VB1HJcwLpoaYk9TvEhvRHm3EQA1kuCSgPW>

7. Cut the hide to the shape of wanted parfleche container



[https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTH2s2YUFAU8c7\\_fZqpUsEMfA7fxi4deaA8Z5sTjafD6SXh1G9FeDGO&usqp=CAE&s](https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTH2s2YUFAU8c7_fZqpUsEMfA7fxi4deaA8Z5sTjafD6SXh1G9FeDGO&usqp=CAE&s)  
Pattern of Parfleche-Photo by Andrea Abeyta

8. Fold the rawhide to dry in shape of container using sticks or other objects to hold the shape while the hide dries.
9. Burn holes in rawhide for lacing with rawhide strips or buckskin.



[https://media.istockphoto.com/id/178800030/photo/blacksmiths-hammer-working-a-heated-metal-rod-on-an-anvil.jpg?s=612x612&w=0&k=20&c=p56UNhD\\_bSUbVFO0UkYji394a2WXv8h50-3JCgaz6bg=](https://media.istockphoto.com/id/178800030/photo/blacksmiths-hammer-working-a-heated-metal-rod-on-an-anvil.jpg?s=612x612&w=0&k=20&c=p56UNhD_bSUbVFO0UkYji394a2WXv8h50-3JCgaz6bg=)

*Natives sometimes used an awl that was traded by the trappers and put their own handle on awl or they used burning sticks to make holes in the raw hide.*



Display and read together as a class.

### **How is Parfleche Used by Some Eastern Shoshone Today?**

Picture of George Abeyta with his Parfleche tube for Bussels made by Gerimiah HolyBull.



Native American Fancy Dancer-George Abeyta photo by Jeb Schenck  
Photo of Bustle case-Photo by George Abeyta

Ann Abeyta an enrolled member of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe owns a Parfleche container used for her dancing feathers, bag to carry items when giving presentations, and a bow and arrow cylinder parfleche container made by her father, Corn Abeyta.



Photo of Parfleche Items-Photo by Ann Abeyta  
Photo of Bow and Arrows-Photo by Corn Abeyta



Pictures of Elk, Deer, Rabbits, and Mountain Sheep.



deer

elk

buffalo

Photo of Deer-Photo by Andrea Abeyta  
Photo of Elk-Photo by Corn Abeyta  
Photo of Buffalo-Photo by Corn Abeyta



## **COMMON CORE STANDARDS ADDRESSED IN LESSON:**

### **Comprehension and Collaboration:**

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1 - Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about *grade 1 topics and texts* with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1.A - Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1.B - Build on others' talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.1.C - Ask questions to clear up any confusion about the topics and texts under discussion.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2 - Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.3 - Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to gather additional information or clarify something that is not understood.

### **Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas:**

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.4 - Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.5 - Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **WYOMING STATE SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS ADDRESSED IN LESSON- 2018 K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

### **Social Studies Content Standard 2 - Culture and Cultural Diversity**

Students demonstrate an understanding of the contributions and impacts of human interaction and cultural diversity on societies.

### **Rationale**

Culture helps us to understand ourselves as both individuals and members of various groups. In a multicultural society, students need to understand multiple perspectives that derive from different cultural vantage points. As citizens, students need to know how institutions are maintained or changed and how they influence individuals, cultures, and societies. This understanding allows students to relate to peoples of local, tribal, state, national, and global communities.

SS2.2.1 - Name the ways groups (e.g., families and schools) including Indigenous Tribes of Wyoming, meet human needs and concerns (e.g., belonging and personal safety) and contribute to personal identity and daily life (e.g., compare features of modern-day living [food, shelter, clothing,



transportation] to those of the past, create a chart showing how farming, schools, or communities have changed over time, illustrate past dwellings [tepee, sweat lodge, wikiup, sod, log cabin, earth lodge] and present-day housing.

SS2.2.2 - Recognize and describe unique ways in which expressions of culture influences people including Indigenous Tribes of Wyoming (e.g., language, sign language, stories, music, symbolism, and art).

#### **Social Studies Content Standard 4 - Time, Continuity, and Change**

Students analyze events, people, problems, and ideas within their historical contexts.

##### **Rationale**

Students need to understand their historical roots and how past events shape the past, present, and may shape the future. Students must know what life was like in the past to comprehend how things change and develop over time. Students gain historical understanding through inquiry, of history by and through researching and interpreting events affecting individual, local, tribal, state, national, and global histories.

SS2.4.2 - Identify tools and technologies, including those of Indigenous Tribes of Wyoming, that made or make life easier and sustainable (e.g., cars for getting one place to another, washing machines for washing clothes, flashlights to see in the dark, ad usage of bison and natural resources.)

#### **Social Studies Content Standard 5 - People, Places, and Environments**

Students apply their knowledge of the geographic themes (location, place, movement, region, and human/environment interactions) and skills to demonstrate an understanding of interrelationships among people, places, and environment. Rationale Students gain geographical perspectives of the community, state, nation, and world by studying the Earth and how humans interact with people, places, and environments. Their knowledge of geography allows students to make local and global connections. Students develop increasingly abstract thought as they use data and apply skills to analyze human behavior in relation to its physical and cultural environment.

SS2.5.1 - Use a map, globe, and mental mapping to identify familiar areas and simple patterns and create maps using various media.

##### **Human Place and Movement**

SS2.5.3 - Use the human features of a community to describe what makes that community unique (e.g., cultural, language, religion, food, clothing, political, economic, population, and types of jobs in an area) and why others move to or from that place.

##### **Environment and Society**

SS2.5.4 - Identify how people, including Indigenous Tribes of Wyoming, may adjust to and/or change their environment in order to survive. (e.g., clothing, houses, foods, and natural resources)