

Ojibwe Hike



Audubon Center
of the North Woods

Purpose: Ojibwe culture and traditions are a rich part of Minnesota's history. In this class, students will be engaged in past and present-day Ojibwe culture. Myths and stereotypes are dispelled while students learn about a culture intimately linked with nature for sustenance and survival. Games, stories and sensory experiences are part of this discovery.

Concepts:

- Native Americans of the woodlands historically met their needs by living in their environment resourcefully, and according to the seasons.
- Stories, songs, games, and dances have been used by the Ojibwe to teach children the beliefs, values, and history of the culture.
- Unfortunately, there are many cultural myths about historical and present-day Native Americans, including the Ojibwe.

Learning Outcomes: *Students will be able to*

- Identify and present a plant used by the Ojibwe and its uses to the class.
- List and name the origin of three names used to refer to the Ojibwe people.
- Describe an activity for each season, done traditionally by the Ojibwe.
- Practice using Ojibwe words throughout the lesson.

Minnesota Academic Standards:

Science:

- 5.3.4.1.1: Identify renewable and non-renewable energy and material resources that are found in Minnesota and describe how they are used.
- 7.4.2.1.1: Identify a variety of populations and communities in a ecosystem and describe the relationships among the populations and communities in a stable ecosystem.
- 8.1.3.2.1: Describe examples of important contributions to the advancement of science, engineering and technology made by individuals representing different groups and cultures at different times in history.

Social Studies 4-8:

I. U.S. History:

A. Pre-history through 1607: The Students will understand that large and diverse American Indian nations were the original inhabitants of North America.

V. Geography

A. Concepts of Location: The student will identify and locate major physical and cultural features that played an important role in the history of Minnesota

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CLASS LENGTH: 1 – 1.5 OR 3 HR

GRADES: 4-12

SEASON: F, W, SP, S

GROUP SIZE: UP TO 20

SAFETY: Most of the walk will be on flat to slightly sloping trails. To enter the tipi and wigwam, students must go several feet off the trail and duck.

MATERIALS: Moccasins (picture), U.S. map, Map of the reservations/ceded territory, Photo poster of Indians, Wild Rice poster, Indian dwellings & homes poster, Ojibwe translation sheets, Plant cards, Crayons for plant rubbings, Spruce or White pine (needles) tea in Thermos Cups, Deer hide with or without fur/other furs, food props and samples, Maple Syrup with plastic spoons in Ziploc, Birch bark for biting, Birch bark and water in zip lock/matches (this to show that birch bark will burn even when soaking wet), 2 Seasons poster with labels Cedar, sweet grass, sage, tobacco, Basswood strips for optional twining activity, Double ball game, Bird/grass/wildflower seed, Paper/pencils/crayons for journaling and/or review

PRE-CLASS PREP: (20-30 min) – Check to make sure you have gathered all materials you need. Walk trails to find all the plants students will be looking for. Soak some birch bark in water and carry it along in a zip lock (this will burn even when wet), and make white pine, or spruce needle tea in a Thermos. Make sure you have all the props for the hike – spoons, syrup, cups, twine, birch bark for bites, etc. On post-it notes, write the names of 10 different cities/geographical areas along the path the Ojibwe traveled from the eastern U.S. to Minnesota (St. Lawrence River & Atlantic Ocean, Turtle Island – Montreal, Niagara Falls, Manitoulin Island, Sault Saint Marie, Lake Superior, Madeline Island, Spirit Island etc.) to use on the wall map in the International classroom (Or on a map you bring with you if teaching in a different classroom).

CLASS OUTLINE:

- I. Ten Minutes to Teaching
- II. Introduction (20 min)
- III. Ojibwe History (20 min)
 - a. Origin of Names
 - b. Where Ojibwe Live
 - c. Migration Story
 - d. Ojibwe Culture
- IV. Ojibwe Use of Plants (1:20 min)
 - a. Search for plant/student presentation
 - b. Plant samples
 - c. The Four Sacred Medicines
- V. Reflection
- VI. Authentic Assessment
- VII. The Sending