

Animals of the West

Video Lesson Companion Worksheet

Use this worksheet as a companion to the Animals of the West video lesson.

INTRODUCTION

Vocabulary Words:

Companions: someone who keeps someone else company, sometimes for protection and sometimes to make sure they're not lonely

Hide: the skin of an animal

Plows: heavy devices or tools that are used to move soil

Herding: keeping a large group of animals, such as sheep or cattle, together

Questions to Answer:

Question #1: What is your favorite animal?

Question #2: Why is it your favorite?

TOOLS FOR HORSES

Vocabulary Words:

Pommel: the front part of the saddle that sticks up; riders hold onto the pommel for balance

Stirrups: a frame or ring that holds the rider's feet

Silversmith: a person who makes items out of silver

Exquisite: very beautiful

Elaborately: worked with great care and lots of detail

Status: a person's social standing

Indicated: showed

Questions to Answer:

Question #3: What patterns and shapes do you notice in the saddle's beadwork designs?

Question #4: Compare Mr. Bohlin's saddle to the Crow woman's saddle. In what ways are they different? How are they similar?

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Question #5: Why do you think Mr. Bohlin chose to use animals to decorate this saddle?

Question #6: What are other items that symbolize wealth and status?

Activities to Complete:

Activity #1: Design your own saddle! What kinds of materials would you use to decorate your saddle? Would you use beads, like the Crow saddle? What sorts of images would you add to decorate your saddle?

Activity #2: Design your own blanket saddle! What colors, patterns, and shapes will you feature?

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SPURRED ON!

Question to Answer:

Question #7: Pick your two favorite spur designs and compare them to each other. In what ways are they different? How are they similar?

Activity to Complete:

Activity #3: Design your own set of spurs!

If you were a horseback rider, what would your spurs look like?

WHERE THE BUFFALO ROAM...

Vocabulary Words:

Keystone species: an animal or plant that is so important that its presence can impact the other plants and animals in its habitat

Graze: to feed on grass

Questions to Answer:

Question #8: Imagine you are a guest at Murthly Castle, and you get to sit down on one of these chairs! What do you think it would feel like? Is it comfortable?

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Question #9: Why do you think the bison is such an important symbol of the American West?

Activities to Complete:

Activity #4: Imagine you are standing in this landscape and close your eyes. What sounds do you hear? Can you hear the bison moving? Can you hear any birds singing?

Activity #5: Write a poem that tells the story of this painting!

ANIMALS IN ART

Vocabulary Words:

Assemblages: works of art created by collecting and bringing together objects and materials from everyday life

Abstract art: art that doesn't try to represent our world in a lifelike way; it focuses on using colors, shapes, and lines to represent ideas and emotions

Buckskin: the skin of a male deer

Yolk: the part of a shirt or dress that covers the neck and shoulders

Illustrator: an artist who draws pictures for books, magazines, and advertisements

Glassblowing: a process in which an artist shapes hot glass into shapes by blowing air through a tube

Traditional: historic, old, handed down by tradition

Trickster: a person who plays tricks on others

Shapeshifter: someone who can change shapes from one person to another or from a person to an animal

Mold: a container with an empty space inside

Molten: material that is heated to such a high temperature that it becomes liquid

War correspondent: a journalist who reports from a war

Illustration: a drawing included in a magazine or newspaper

Whaling canoes: canoes used to hunt whales

Contemporary: of the present time, modern

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Questions to Answer:

Question #10: What materials are your clothes made of?
Do you know where those materials come from?

Question #11: Find a special piece of clothing in your closet and compare it to Ms. Smoke's beaded dress. How are they different? In what ways are they similar?

Question #12: This basket was made by a basket weaver to celebrate their home. If you were to create your own basket celebrating your home, what animals and plants would you include in your design?

Question #13: Why do you think the basket weaver chose to include a rattlesnake instead of another desert animal?

Question #14: How many horses can you count in the Badlands bunch?
What roles do you think each horse plays in the bunch?

Question #15: Look closely at the Badlands landscape in the painting.
How would you describe this landscape? Is it lush and green? Is it bare? Is it hot or cold?

Question #16: What shapes and patterns do you notice in Mr. Singletary's sculpture?

Question #17: Why do you think Ms. Butterfield uses branches from trees to sculpture her horses?

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Question #18: Imagine you are going to create your own horse sculpture!
What kinds of materials would you use to create your own sculpture?

Question #19: What kinds of emotions do you think the cowboy in this sculpture was feeling in this moment? Was he scared? Or happy?

Question #20: What kinds of patterns and shapes do you notice in the rattle designs?

Question #21: Why do you think the artist chose to use black and red paints?

Question #22: Why do you think Mr. Blake chose to carve the elk horn into a cowboy boot?

Question #23: Can you think of another example in this lesson of an artwork made from one kind of material but looks like it was made from something else?

Activities to Complete:

Activity #6: This sculpture is called *Bear and Salmon Conversation* and captures a moment when the bear and salmon are discussing something.

Imagine what they are saying! Write down this conversation:

Bear: _____

Salmon: _____

Bear: _____

Salmon: _____

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Activity #9: Do you know a story in which an animal plays a key role? Share that story with a friend!

Activity #10: This sculpture was based on an earlier drawing Mr. Remington did. What do you think it looked like? Draw your version of it!

CONCLUSION

Question #24: What are some of the animals that call the American West home?

Question #25: How are those animals important to the communities of people who live across the American West?

Question #26: How do artists celebrate those animals in artwork?

Final Activity to Complete:

Activity #11: Create an artwork that celebrates your favorite animal. It could be a painting, a sculpture, a poem, a song, or a dance.