



# Social Studies Virtual Learning

# 7th Grade

April 20, Lesson 21



7th/Social Studies  
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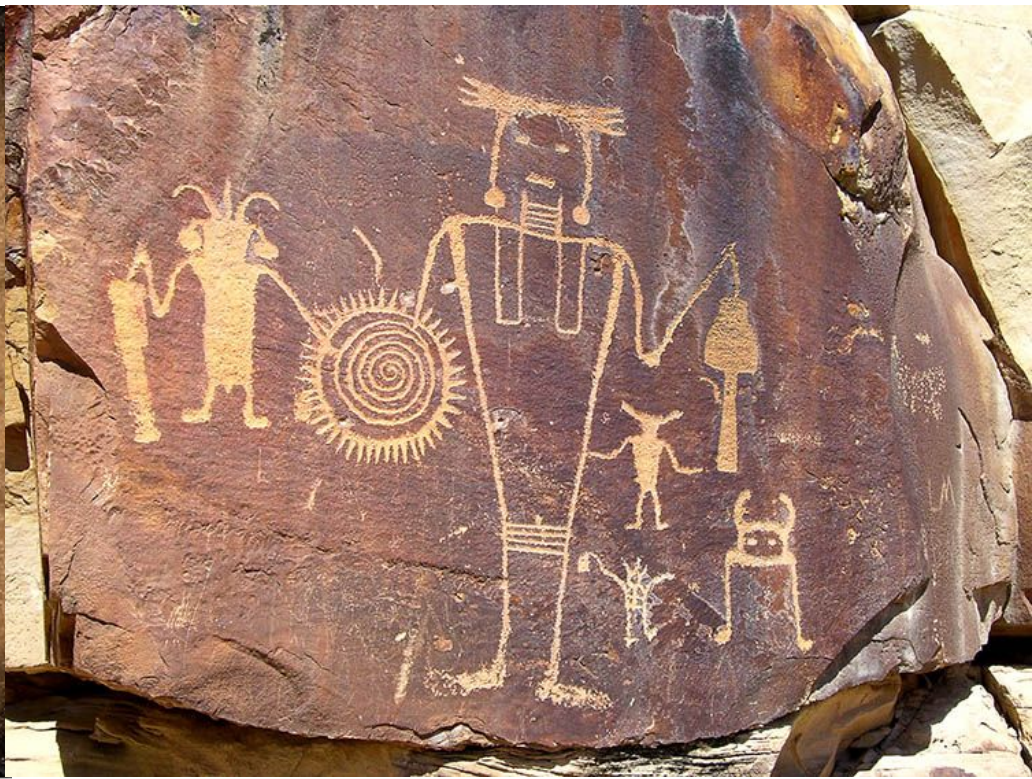
**Objective/Learning Target:** Art and Culture (Native pre-Conquistadors to Catholic iconography)

Warm Up-Today you will analyze Native American cave drawings. These pictures are part of what is known as *iconography*, which is the visual images and symbols used in a work of art.

For each picture, write down your interpretation of what you see. Think about each image in the picture and what it represents. Is the painter trying to tell a story?



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Possible interpretations could focus on how these paintings are showing daily activities (hunting) or possibly showing beliefs concerning views towards leadership. These pictures may also have a religious connection.

# **This slide provides an introduction to the purpose of storytelling in Native American culture.**

**Storytelling is an ancient and intimate tradition between the storyteller and their audience. Over time, how we tell a story has evolved but the key elements have remained unchanged.**

That's not to say we all tell stories the same way. Each culture will tell the same story differently, because each one has its own genres and cultural rules. These cultural rules have led to a host of different traditions and practices beloved around the world. In this series, we explore the importance of traditional storytelling across various cultures.

## **Native American Culture**

The Native American culture is known for its rich oral tradition. Instead of using a written language to document their history, these indigenous people simply relied on their verbal language to share their history, customs, rituals and legends through vivid narratives.

These powerful tales are often told by the tribal elders to the younger generations. They relate their tribal history and they also entertain and preserve their culture.

Each time a story is told, it breathes life into the culture, cultivates their verbal language. It gives meaning to the tribe's history and also teaches life lessons about things like love, leadership and honour. Their symbiotic connection to the earth and intimate relationships with the animals they depended on is also depicted through storytelling.

# Lesson Activity-part 1

Today you will read through two Native American stories. Before you read through the stories you can watch this video, [The Oral Tradition of Storytelling](#), to better understand storytelling in Native American culture. For each story provide the 5 Ws (Who, What, When, Where, and Why) to summarize each one. Use the chart on the next slide to organize your information.

## [How the World Was Made](#)

[The Spider and the People](#) (This comes from the Osage people which lived in Missouri)

WHO

WHAT

WHEN

WHERE

WHY



## Extended Learning

If you are interested in reading more of these Native American stories you can click on the link below.

[Native American stories](#)