# LESSON #1: LEWIS & CLARK – Meeting the Indians of the Northwest

#### (Grade 8/Social Studies) Written by Mishelle Hall

**Overview of the Lesson:** In this lesson, students will research and analyze the relationships developed by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark with the Native Americans during their expedition. This activity is intended to be used with other Social Studies lessons and activities to provide students with a comprehensive study of American Westward Expansion.

Objectives: The learner will

- Research and evaluate the encounter(s) between the Corps of Discovery and Native Americans
- o Analyze the role of Native Americans to the success of the expedition

### TEKS:

(8.1) History. The student understands traditional historical points of reference in

U.S. history through 1877:

- (C) explain the significance of the following date: 1803.
- (8.6) History. The student understands westward expansion and its effects on the political, economic, and social development of the nation:
  (E) identify areas that were acquired to form the United States.
- (8.12) Geography. The student understands the physical characteristics of the United States during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and how humans adapted to and modified the environment.
- (8.24) Culture. The student understands the relationships between and among people from various groups, including racial, ethnic, and religious groups, during the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries:
  - (A) identify selected racial, ethnic, and religious groups that settled in the United States and their reasons for immigration;

(B) explain the relationship between urbanization and conflicts resulting from differences in religion, social class, and political beliefs;

(C) identify ways conflicts between people from various racial, ethnic, and religious groups were resolved;

(D) analyze the contributions of people of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups to our national identity; and,

(E) identify the political, social, and economic contributions of women to American society.

(8.30) Social studies skills. The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources including electronic technology.

# (8.31) Social studies skills. The student communicates in written, oral, and visual forms.

# (8.32) Social studies skills. The student uses problem-solving and decision-

making skills, working independently and with others, in a variety of settings.

Time Required: One to two class periods

## Materials Needed:

Copies of the Sid Richardson Museum painting *Captain William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Meeting with the Indians of the Northwest* by Charles M. Russell NARA Photograph Analysis Worksheet

NARA Primary Source: "List of Indian presents purchased by Meriwether Lewis in preparation for the expedition to the West"

Computer lab

# Procedure

• Place students into groups. Give to each group a packet that contains:

8" x 11" reproductions of *Captain William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Meeting with the Indians of the Northwest* (Do not share the title of the painting with your students at first).

NARA Photograph Analysis Worksheet:

 $http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/photo\_analysis\_worksheet.pdf.$ 



*Captain William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Meeting with the Indians of the Northwest*, by Charles M. Russell, 1897, Oil on Canvas Sid Richardson Museum, Fort Worth, Texas

 In groups, have students discuss the painting and complete questions on the Photo Analysis Worksheet. After groups have finished their exchange of ideas, give groups the opportunity to share ideas with the class.

Topics of discussion should include:

The role of each individual The Indian camp The geography The members of the Corps of Discovery How could these groups communicate? Speculate as to what the groups are discussing.

 Give each group a copy of the NARA document "List of Indian presents purchased by Meriwether Lewis in preparation for the expedition to the West" http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/lewis-clark/images/present-list.gif

Each group will examine the list of Indian presents. Ask students to decide why such items would have been necessary. Other questions that could be explored include:

Why do you think these items were chosen? Were the items of interest to Native Americans? Why or why not?

How did the exchange of gifts affect the relationships between the Corps of Discovery and the Native American tribes they encountered?

If Lewis and Clark had not brought these gifts, how might the expedition have been different?

Give each group time to exchange their thoughts and ideas about the exchange of gifts.

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|------------------------|---|--|
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| Use the chart below to | list people, objects, and activities in | the photograph.  |
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Photo Analysis Worksheet, Online version on November 2, 2006, at: http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/photo\_analysis\_worksheet.pdf

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List of Indian presents purchased by Meriwether Lewis in preparation for the expedition to the West, 1803; Records of the War Department Office of the Quartermaster General, Record Group 92; Old Military and Civil Records LICON, Textual Archives Services Division (NWCTB), National Archives Building, Washington, DC. Online version on November 2, 2006, available at: http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/lewis-clark/images/present-list.gif ARC Identifier: 300353

#### **Suggested Activities:**

#### Activity #1

Using the Internet, have students research the various tribes (Mandans, Sioux, Tetons, Yanktons, Arikaras, Shoshone) encountered by Lewis and Clark.

- Refer to the Lewis and Clark Journals. There is a section on "Lewis and Clark Among the Indians" that can be used as a resource on The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Online, available on November 2, 2006, at: http://lewisandclarkjournals.unl.edu/
- Another resource for detailed journals, The Journals of Lewis and Clark, available through the American Studies at the University of Virginia, online version on November 2, 2006, at: http://xroads.virginia.edu/~Hyper/JOURNALS/toc.html
- Extensive list of Lewis and Clark resources including tribes encountered by the Corps of Discovery on Inside the Corps, PBS online, on November 2, 2006, available at: http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/archive/idx\_rel.html
- Interactive Website for the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Discovering Lewis and Clark, VIAs Inc., online version on November 2, 2006, available at: http://www.lewis-clark.org/index.asp

Students will place their research into a graphic organizer or foldable (your choice or theirs). Teachervision.com, a division of the Family Education Network, offers graphic organizers for a free 7-day trial period. Online version on November 2, 2006, available at: http://www.teachervision.fen.com/graphic-organizers/printable/6293.html

The following information should be included in the organizer:

Name of tribes Location Date Details of Meeting (cordial, hostile, etc.)

#### Activity #2

Using a map of the Louisiana Territory, have students label the map with Native American and Corps of Discovery encounters – including location, date, and name of tribe. Check the ancillary maps available for your textbook for a black-line master of the Louisiana Territory for the students to use.

### Activity #3

In groups, students will plan a journey to a new planet. In order to ensure a successful journey, they need to create a detailed list of items they believe will be of use during their trip. Students should keep in mind the following questions:

What do they need to survive? What items would they take to demonstrate our culture to unknown cultures? How will they communicate? What gifts would they bring?

At the completion of their planning, each group will present their plans to the class.