Woven Stories
Museum of Texas Tech University

Maker Unknown
Teec Nos Pos Weaving, Navajo
c. 1930s
From the William C. and Evelyn M. Davies Gallery of Southwest Indian Art

For many visitors to the Davies’ Gallery, this textile is the star of the exhibit. Beautifully made, with details, shapes and colors that hold your attention, this rug belonged to Evelyn’s father.

Teece Nos Pos (pronounced as Teass Nahss Pahss) is the name of this style of Navajo textile, and it is also the name of a place in northeast Arizona, as well as the name of the trading post at the same location. There are several different styles of weaving within Navajo culture, and the name of each style is associated with a location and/or trading post.

This particular style is in part recognized by the wide border all around the piece, as well as the many different shapes and the beautiful colors of yarn; jewel tones such as red, green, and gold are across the piece—which is why sometimes these Teec Nos Pos weavings are referred to as Jewel-type weavings.

In the last few years there has been more information provided about Navajo weaving from Navajo people. This is important because for many decades the only material available was produced by non-Navajo scholars (which is the case for all Native American culture material). Much of the material provided for this study of this particular weaving is based on information from Navajo sources. And two important “Navajo sources” are Master Weavers—and sisters—Lynda Teller Pete and Barbara Ornelas. Both have visited MoTTU on several occasions to present weaving workshops and more information from them is accessible in this learning material.

When they saw this textile in the gallery Barbara told us that while she did not know the name of the person who created this beautiful work, she knew that it was likely a “woman of a certain age”. She said that only someone with years of experience could have produced such beautiful diagonal lines, of which there are many in this piece!

--Jill Hoffman
The Helen DeVitt Jones Curator of Education, MoTTU

Grade/Ages: Child through Adult
Focus: Geography, History, Art
TEKS: Fine Arts
§117.702. Art, Kinder, (b) (2) (A); §117.705. Art, Grade 1, (b) (3) (A); §117.108. Art, Grade 2 (b) (3); §117.111. Art, Grade 3, (b) (1) (3); §117.114. Art, Grade 4, (b) (3); §117.117. Art, (b) (2), (3) (B); §117.702. Art, Middle School 1, (c) (1) (B), (2) (3); §117.203. Art, Middle School 2 (b) (1) (c), (b) (2), (b) (3)
§113.17 Social Studies, Middle School
113.18. Social Studies, Grade 6, (16) Culture (A), (19) Social studies skills (C) (D), (20) Social Studies skills (A); §113.20 Social Studies, Grade 8 (b) Knowledge and skills. (1) History (A), (6) History (B), (10 Geography (A), (23) Culture (C) (D); High School: Geography, History, Social Studies, Sociology High School: §113.41 US History (3) History (A), (25) Culture (A) (B) (C);
§113.43 World Geography (c) (18) (A) §113.46 Sociology (c) (11) (D) (E)
Weaving on a Cardboard Loom
Lesson Plan – Elementary (perhaps younger Middle School...)
   Teec Nos Pos textile, c. 1930s
   Davies Gallery of Southwestern Indian Art, Museum of Texas Tech University

TEKS: Fine Arts
§117.702. Art, Kinder, (b) (2) (A); §117.705. Art, Grade 1, (b) (3) (A); §117.108. Art, Grade 2 (b) (3); §117.111. Art, Grade 3, (b) (1) (3); §117.114. Art, Grade 4, (b) (3); §117.117. Art, (b) (2), (3) (B); §117.702. Art, Middle School 1, (c) (1) (B), (2) (3); §117.203. Art, Middle School 2 (b) (1) (c), (b) (2), (b) (3)

The learning standards for these Fine Arts TEKS deal with creative expression, learning about the elements and principles of art and design, and learning about the art from other cultures. This particular lesson plan focuses on Navajo weaving—and weaving is a major aspect of Navajo culture. Although this lesson about weaving on a cardboard loom is not comparable to the technique, size, or complexity of Navajo weaving, children/participants can grasp an understanding of what the weaving (over and under) process involves. The resources that are provided can help you and your class/group learn more about the many different styles of Navajo weaving, of which there are several.

Rationale:
Participants will get to experience the feel of yarn, learn about warp and weft, practice the over and under process of weaving, produce a piece that reflects personal expression and understanding of principles of art and design, and learn more about Navajo weaving.

Materials:
HOW TO WEAVE ON A CARDBOARD LOOM
--Bosque Redondo New Mexico Historic Site
http://www.nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo
http://www.nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education
Under “Dear Educators...”
   Click on the word “here”:
   “There are more lessons about our site by clicking here ....”

   Then scroll down to:
   Activity: Make and Weave on a Cardboard Loom
   (Click on the activity photo and it leads to videos and lesson plan for K-12 activity.)

Access and watch the how-to video form Bosque Redondo.

Process for Weaving:
Depending on the age of the child the teacher/program leader may need to prepare the cardboard before class. Older children can cut the slits necessary in the cardboard. Watch the cardboard loom weaving video from start finish before planning or beginning this lesson.

continues...
Weaving On a Cardboard Loom, Lesson Plan, p. 2

**Background information:**
Tell the group they will learn about Navajo weaving today. Share with them any or all of the videos listed in the resource section. Some videos are better suited to different ages. The teacher/leader may also want to have some photos to share with the group, such as: a Navajo weaving loom, a Navajo person seated at their loom as they weave, examples of different Navajo styles of weaving (such as the Teec Nos Pos, Chief’s Blankets, Two Grey Hills, Crystal, etc.). Additionally, share with the group a photo of Churro sheep and let them handle unprocessed/processed wool, if available. Share with the group the video of the Navajo weaver Clara Sherman as she cards, spins and weaves the wool.

--Navajo weaver Clara Sherman Carding and Spinning, as well as weaving on her loom
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_p7OlghMvW

Also, show a map of the Navajo reservation and share information about the Navajo Nation, such as brief history, number in the community, photos of their community in the 4 Corners region. There are many photos and videos available online that show historical and contemporary locations and events.

Do stress that Navajo people are still living, working, raising their families, and still weaving! These are not “Indians of the past”, they continue.

**THE NAVAJO PEOPLE**
--Learning more about the Navajo Nation, their land, places to visit, etc.
-https://www.discovernavajo.com

--Website of the Navajo Nation
https://www.navajo-nsn.gov

**Navajo Weaving history:**
To learn about Navajo people and their culture includes learning about their weaving. And to learn about Navajo weaving, one has to learn more about the Navajo Long Walk, a major event in their history as well as in the American history of the southwestern United States.

There are many resources online to learn about the Long Walk, and teachers/group leaders can judge how much to tell students based upon the age of their students. It is a painful event in Navajo history and one that is not widely known outside of Native American communities of the southwest.

The Long Walk refers to the historical event in which many Navajo people were force-marched over hundreds of miles from eastern Arizona to eastern New Mexico, where survivors were imprisoned at Bosque Redondo, at Ft. Sumner, New Mexico. (The Resources section lists a variety of online sources to learn more about the Long Walk and the New Mexico Historic Site at Bosque Redondo.) The significance of this event to Navajo weaving is important because weaving continued at the prison camp,

continues...
and ultimately grew stronger as a source of financial support, pride and identity. The weaving resulted in textiles that helped to keep them warm during and after their time at Bosque Redondo, according to Master Weaver Lynda Teller Pete, Navajo. Access the educational material from the Bosque Redondo Historic Site in New Mexico. There are photos, a Power Point presentation, and other resources for educators to use.

Bosque Redondo is a place that can be visited today although the original buildings are no longer present. A visitor center and information are available for visitors to access. There is a video interview with the director of the site that is a good explanation of the history and it is listed below in the resources section.

Although many Navajo peoples died, and were killed by US soldiers, during the Long Walk, there were survivors of the ordeal who, years later, were able to return to homelands in Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico. The Navajo people were initially imprisoned, believed to be the answer to cease the raiding that the Navajo people participated in. The US government had believed the answer was containment and total control of the Navajo people. But, even after years of imprisonment, it was acknowledged that overpowering the Navajo culture was impossible and did not achieve desired results.

Despite efforts to change and/or destroy much of Navajo culture, weaving is one of the aspects of Navajo life that endured. That is why learning about Bosque Redondo and the Long Walk is so important to learn about when also learning about Navajo weaving. During their imprisonment at Bosque Redondo, Navajo people were provided with commercial yarns and dyes so that they could continue to weave. Weavers even used unraveled yarn from discarded soldier uniforms. In later years the strength of weaving as a way to provide for families was made stronger through the trading posts that provided supplies and necessities to Navajo communities, and weavings and tourist items to area visitors. The managers of the trading posts had an enormous impact on what weavings looked like as they tried to influence weavers to produce designs that were competitive with “Oriental-styled” rugs that were then-popular with homemakers. The various weaving posts became associated with the weaving styles of the region in which they were located. So, Navajo weaving is referred to by various names such as Teec Nos Pos, Two Gray Hills, and Crystal, for example, as those names indicate a specific geographic locale and/or is the name of an associated trading post.

Today, Navajo weavers are highly respected, and some are known around the world. Navajo weavings can be very expensive and are collected by galleries, museums, and individuals. Some weavers continue to make weavings as a way to support their families, while others are known as artists. Depending upon the size of the finished textile, it can take years to finish a single Navajo woven piece. Two sisters, Barbara Ornelas and Lynda Teller Pete, Navajo, are renowned as Master Weavers and spend a great deal of each calendar year teaching others how to weave in the Navajo style. They teach in the United States and around the world. They have presented several workshops at the Museum of Texas Tech University in Lubbock. You can watch and listen to them as they talk about their weaving and how it is a part of their life as Navajo individuals (videos in the resource section).

continues...
The Teec Nos Pos (say, Teece Nahss Pahss) textile from the MoTTU is just one style of weaving. Access videos and photos below to share with your group to show that different styles of weaving developed in different places. Navajo weavers can weave any design they choose, they do not have to work with designs that are from the region they are from, or in which they live. Women and men both weave, and there are both men and women weavers that are accomplished and highly skilled.

The Teec Nos Pos Trading Post, in Arizona, is still in operation, as is the post at Toadalena, New Mexico (where there is also a Weaving Museum).

There is much information available about the trading posts, the people who ran them, and their work with Navajo communities and individuals. One post, the Hubbell Trading Post, in Arizona, is a national Historic Landmark and is managed by the National Park Service. It can be visited today.

Although weaving is most closely related to Navajo culture, other cultures participate in weaving, and, Navajo individuals are involved in other art forms such as photography, filmmaking, writing, painting, printmaking, etc. Not every Navajo person weaves, but those who do are continuing an activity that is an important part of Navajo history and culture.

**Resources for Learning More About Navajo Culture and Weaving**

--Navajo weavers Barbara Teller Ornelas & Lynda Teller Pete, and Idyllwild Program from Craft In America
    [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axGeXfOPU84](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axGeXfOPU84)

    Discussion about Navajo weaving work with Diné Master Weavers Lynda Pete and Barbara Ornelas
    [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A15rPbWhfTk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A15rPbWhfTk)

**Bosque Redondo Memorial, New Mexico Historic Sites**

The location where the Navajo people were imprisoned after the Long Walk is located in eastern New Mexico. It is called Bosque Redondo and is now a memorial that can be visited. The links below are from the website of the historic site.

- [http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/history](http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/history)

- [http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education](http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education)


--Bosque Redondo Memorial with interview of Site Manager, Aaron Roth. Great overview.
    [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1rldnzr_Wg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1rldnzr_Wg)

continues...
Lesson Plan: Map, Bosque Redondo, etc., page 5

--The Bosque Redondo Memorial and a brief history of how the memorial came to be.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RG8Ex7vLGoM

--Reflection of the Navajo Treaty of 1868. Length: 5 min. This is video of a Navajo gentleman talking about the impact of the Long Walk on Navajo people.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOgHagWY8o4

**Website for Navajo Nation**
https://www.navajo-nsn.gov

**Photos of Teec nos pos trading post on yelp**
https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g31376-d1554867-Reviews-Teec_Nos_Pos_Trading_Post-Teec_Nos_Pos_Apache_County_Arizona.html

**Navajo Weaving**
An excellent starting point to learn about Navajo weaving...
Dr. Mark Sublette, Quick Guide to Navajo Rugs: What you need to know about these highly collectible textiles, from Canyon Road Arts: The Complete Visitors Guide to Arts, Dining and the Santa Fe Lifestyle,
https://www.canyonroadarts.com/quick-guide-to-navajo-rugs/

**Weaving museum**
https://www.navajorug.com/pages/teec-nos-pos-rugs

**Website about weaving**

**Bibliography resource**
https://weavinginbeauty.com/navajo-rug-101/bibliography

- end -
The Long Walk, the Navajo Nation, & Bosque Redondo – Maps & Culture

Lesson Plan – Upper Elementary, Middle School 1 & 2, Younger High School

Teec Nos Pos textile, c. 1930s
Davies Gallery of Southwestern Indian Art, Museum of Texas Tech University

TEKS:
§113.17 Social Studies, Middle School
113.18. Social Studies, Grade 6, (16) Culture (A), (19) Social studies skills (C) (D), (20) Social Studies skills (A); §113.20 Social Studies, Grade 8 (b) Knowledge and skills. (1) History (A), (6) History (B), (10 Geography (A), (23) Culture (C) (D)

Using Navajo weaving and Bosque Redondo as an entry point, classes could examine how westward expansion impacted the Navajo, Apache, and other Native Americans in the American west and southwest, as well as what government policies were towards these people. Classes can also use Navajo weaving as a starting point to learn more about the relationship between art and the society that creates it; focus on why weaving was/is important to Navajo culture, and, why art became an important economic sustainer for Native American families and communities. As for activities with maps, students can learn about place names, land ownership, boundaries, and why certain places take on historical significance (as in the case of Bosque Redondo in New Mexico).

Rationale:
Students/participants will get to use and develop skills for looking at and using maps, focusing on the 4 Corners Region of the Southwestern United States. Students will use the Teec Nos Pos textile as an entry point for learning about the Navajo Nation, and the location of their land. Students will also be introduced to the Long Walk and Bosque Redondo as a part of Navajo history and will trace the path and distance of the walk to and from Bosque Redondo. Students will also learn about the importance of weaving to Navajo culture especially during and after the Bosque Redondo years.

Materials:
View the Navajo Nation website to learn more about the land mass of the Navajo Nation, their current government, and some information about Navajo culture. Share this with the students later, after the map activity. Provide to each class member the following:
Paper, pencils, rulers, pre-made map of the 4 Corners Region (Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado).

Process:
Access the resources below for the Bosque Redondo Historic Site in the State of New Mexico. Utilize the Power Point about the Long Walk to learn about how and why the forced march occurred. Access the Santa Fe New Mexican article to use the map of the Navajo Long Walk. (There were actually several forced marches and a few different routes. Many Apache people had been sent to Bosque Redondo believing they would be the only residents there, but thousands of Navajo individuals were imprisoned there as well.)

continues...
Tell students they will learn about the southwestern United States and will also learn about the Navajo Nation and some of their history. Provide each participant with a piece of paper that includes the outlines of the 4 Corners states: Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico. Show participants the map used in the Santa Fe New Mexican article. Help participants locate and indicate on their respective maps the present-day capitals in each state, as well as the points noted on the map from the article.

Have students locate and mark on their respective maps the following locations: Ft. Defiance and Canyon de Chelly (say, Can-yun duh Shay), in Arizona, two of the starting points for the Long Walk. Next, have students locate and indicate on their map the place of Ft. Sumner, which is near the Bosque Redondo Historic Site. Show students the map of the path of the Long Walk and have students draw the path on their map, so that the path ends at Bosque Redondo. Share available photos/resources of that event.

Discuss the distance covered, how long it would take to drive the distance in a car, and how long it would take to walk. Discuss walking that distance on the topography of the various locations. Draw a path of equal distance beginning at the students’ hometown and ending at a point that is at the same distance as the Long Walk. Discuss walking that route today.

Discuss with students the reason for the Long Walk and what happened after the Navajo people left Bosque Redondo and returned to their home and lands. Discuss the Navajo Nation as is exists today and discuss the size of the Navajo Nation in terms of land and what life is like, based on observing the Navajo Nation website. Have students draw in the shape and location of the current boundaries of the Navajo Nation, being sure to indicate the Hopi lands that are located within Navajo lands.

**Navajo Weaving history:**
To learn about Navajo people and their culture includes learning about their weaving. And to learn about Navajo weaving, one has to learn more about the Navajo Long Walk, a major event in their history as well as in the American history of the southwestern United States.

There are many resources online to learn about the Long Walk, and teachers/group leaders can judge how much to tell students based upon the age of their students. It is a painful event in Navajo history and one that is not widely known outside of Native American communities of the southwest.

The Long Walk refers to the historical event in which many Navajo people were force-marched over hundreds of miles from Eastern Arizona to eastern New Mexico, where survivors were...
imprisoned at Bosque Redondo, at Ft. Sumner, New Mexico. (The Resources page lists a variety of online sources to learn more about the Long Walk and the New Mexico Historic Site at Bosque Redondo.) The significance of this event to Navajo weaving is important because it is something that continued at the prison camp, and ultimately grew stronger as a source of financial support, pride and identity. The weaving resulted in textiles that helped to keep them warm during and after their time at Bosque Redondo, according to Master Navajo weaver Lynda Teller Pete. Access the educational material from the Bosque Redondo Historic Site in New Mexico. There are photos, a Power Point presentation, and other resources for educators to use.

Bosque Redondo is a place that can be visited today although the original buildings are no longer present. The site is a day's trip from Lubbock, Texas. A visitor center and information are available for visitors to access. There is a video interview with the director of the site that is a good explanation of the history.

Although Many Navajo people died and were killed by US soldiers during the Long Walk, there were survivors of the ordeal who, years later, were able to return to homelands in Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico. The Navajo people were initially imprisoned, believed to be the answer to cease the raiding that the Navajo people participated in. The US government had believed the answer was containment and total control of the Navajo people.

But, even after years of imprisonment, it was acknowledged that overpowering the Navajo culture was impossible and did not achieve desired results.

**Despite efforts to change and/or destroy much of Navajo culture, weaving is one of the aspects of Navajo life that endured. That is why learning about Bosque Redondo and the Long Walk is so important to learn about when also learning about Navajo weaving.** During their imprisonment at Bosque Redondo, Navajo people were provided with commercial yarns and dyes so that they could continue to weave. Weavers even used unraveled yarn from discarded soldier uniforms. In later years the strength of weaving as a way to provide for families was made stronger through the trading posts that provided supplies and necessities to Navajo communities, and weavings and tourist items to area visitors. The managers of the trading posts had an enormous impact on what weavings looked like as they tried to influence weavers to produce designs that were competitive with “Oriental-styled” rugs that were then-popular with homemakers. The various weaving posts became associated with the weaving styles of the region in which they were located. So, Navajo weaving is referred to by various names such as Teec Nos Pos, Two Gray Hills, and Crystal, for example, as those names indicate a specific geographic locale and/or is the name of an associated trading post.

continues...
Today, Navajo weavers are highly respected, and some are known around the world. Navajo weavings can be very expensive and are collected by galleries, museums, and individuals. Some weavers continue to make weavings as a way to support their families, while others are known as artists. Depending upon the size of the finished textile, it can take years to finish a single Navajo woven piece. Two sisters, Barbara Ornelas and Lynda Teller Pete, Navajo, are renowned as Master Weavers and spend a great deal of each calendar year teaching others how to weave in the Navajo style. They teach in the United States and around the world. They have presented several workshops at the Museum of Texas Tech University in Lubbock. You can watch and listen to them as they talk about their weaving and how it is a part of their life as Navajo individuals.

The Teec Nos Pos (say, Teass Nahss Pahss) textile from the MoTTU is just one style of weaving. Look at provided videos and photos to share with your group to show that different styles of weaving developed in different places (for example, Two Gray Hills, Crystal, etc.) Navajo weavers can weave any design they choose, they do not have to work with designs that are from the region they are from, or in which they live. Women and men both weave, and there are both men and women weavers that are accomplished and highly skilled.

The Teec Nos Pos Trading Post, in Arizona, is still in operation, as is the post at Toadalena, New Mexico (where there is also a Weaving Museum). There is much information available about the trading posts, the people who ran them, and their work with Navajo communities and individuals. One post, the Hubbell Trading Post, in Arizona, is a national Historic Landmark and is managed by the National Park Service. It can be visited today.

Although weaving is most closely related to Navajo culture, other cultures participate in weaving, and, Navajo individuals are involved in other art forms such as photography, filmmaking, writing, painting, printmaking, etc. Not every Navajo person weaves, but those who do are continuing an activity that is an important part of Navajo history and culture.

**Learning about the Navajo Long Walk**

--This is a link to the Bosque Redondo page the New Mexico Historic Sites.
This will provide a lesson plan about the Long Walk, and will also explain how to access the book necessary for use in the lesson plan.


Other videos about the Long Walk...

The Long Walk – Southwest Indian Foundation

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=levkjALF_vM

continues...
Lesson Plan: Map, Bosque Redondo, etc., page 5

The Long Walk, Navajo Traditional Teachings
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDb5Wc8HgOo

Louise Yellowman: The Long Walk to ‘Hweeldi’ / 12:38 minutes
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uY1sYWebih8

**Power Point Presentation about the Long Walk**
On the Bosque Redondo New Mexico Historic Site
(All NM Historic Site information, links, & videos used with permission.)
Click on this link...
http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education

Then, Under Grade 6 – 12, click on “Supplemental Materials”
This will open to a folder in which you will find a Power Point presentation about the Long Walk. (There are also some videos listed in the folder, but not all of them are still working links. The links that are accessible are included on this list of resources.)

From the Santa Fe New Mexican Newspaper; a contemporary view (2014) of the Navajo Long Walk
Articles includes 3 images, one of which is a map of the Long Walk. Use this article and map for the Lesson Plan. (Used with permission.)

**Videos and other resources...**
--Navajo weavers Barbara Teller Ornelas & Lynda Teller Pete, and Idyllwild Program from Craft In America
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axGeXfOPU84

Discussion about Navajo weaving work with Diné Master Weavers Lunda Pete and Barbara Ornelas
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A15rPbWhfTk

**Bosque Redondo Memorial, New Mexico Historic Sites**
The location where the Navajo people were imprisoned after the Long Walk is located in eastern New Mexico. It is called Bosque Redondo and is now a memorial that can be visited. The links below are from the website of the historic site.
- http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/history
- http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education

continues...

--Bosque Redondo Memorial with interview of Site Manager, Aaron Roth. Great overview.  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1rldnzr_Wg

--The Bosque Redondo Memorial and a brief history of how the memorial came to be.  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RG8Ex7vLGoM

--Reflection of the Navajo Treaty of 1868. Length: 5 min. This is video of a Navajo gentleman talking about the impact of the Long Walk on Navajo people.  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOgHagWY8o4

Website for Navajo Nation
https://www.navajo-nsn.gov

Photos of Teec nos pos trading post on yelp
https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g31376-d1554867-Reviews-Teec_Nos_Pos_Trading_Post-Teec_Nos_Pos_Apache_County_Arizona.html

More about Teec Nos Pos weavings...
https://www.navajorug.com/pages/teec-nos-pos-rugs

Weaving museum

Website about weaving, Teec Nos Pos

**Navajo Weaving**
An excellent starting point to learn about Navajo weaving...

**Bibliography resource**
--https://weavinginbeauty.com/navajo-rug-101/bibliography

- end -
Navajo Culture: The US Government, Westward Expansion, Indian Policy, Economic Self-sufficiency, Patriotism and the Navajo Code Talkers

Lesson Plan – High School –
Tee No Pos textile, c. 1930s
Davies Gallery of Southwestern Indian Art, Museum of Texas Tech University

TEKS – High School
Geography, History, Social Studies, Sociology
High School: §113.41 US History (3) History (A), (25) Culture (A) (B) (C); §113.43 World Geography (c) (18) (A) §113.46 Sociology (c) (11) (D) (E)

These areas of study deal with major eras in US History, including westward expansion, and American Indian policy. Discussions could also center around the patriotism of the Navajo Code Talkers, in light of the actions against Navajo people and the impact of the Long Walk and Bosque Redondo experiences. Through Navajo weaving, classes could also examine why and how the arts became an economic sustainer for Native Americans in the U.S., especially in light of assimilation policies towards American Indians. Classes may also want to consider contributions of Navajo arts to American culture.

Suggested activities:

1. Review the history of the Navajo Long March and imprisonment at Bosque Redondo. Ask students to use this as the starting point for a review of US policy regarding assimilation of Native American people. Students can review efforts to change American Indian students at boarding schools managed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the resulting impacts of those decisions. Decisions made by governmental agencies to “Americanize” Indian people was, many agree, a failure.

   Self-determination became the chosen course, to allow Indian people to make decisions that impact Indian lives. One course has been the reliance of arts as an economic sustainer for individuals and communities. Further, students can examine the history and success of the Indian art market, the Indian Arts & Crafts Board, and the prestigious Santa Fe Indian Market held annually. Weaving is certainly a sustaining means of economic survival for many Navajo individuals, or at least a contributing factor.

2. Although not allowed to vote at the time of World War II, many Navajo men willingly participated in the US government efforts to enlist their language and participation in wartime communication. The Navajo Code Talkers were essential to success for allied efforts in the war because the Navajo language is extremely difficult to access for those outside of the language. Ask students to consider and review ideals of patriotism and the realities of service and commitment that surround the Navajo people.

   Consider the impact of the US government policy towards the Navajo at the end of the Civil War (as they were subjected to the Long March and imprisonment at Bosque Redondo), with their willing participation in World War II. The Teec Nos Pos textile can be used as an entry point to Navajo culture. Weaving, during their capture and confinement at Bosque Redondo,
was something that survived and continued throughout the Bosque Redondo experience, and remains a significant aspect of Navajo culture. The experience of the Long March and Bosque Redondo remains a strongly felt event in the collective memory of the Navajo, and yet, despite such harsh treatment (including many deaths), many Navajo men willingly participated as Code Talkers. Ask students to investigate why they believe this was so.

Through the videos and other resources provided below, students can learn more about the experience and reasons behind the Long March and Bosque Redondo, weaving, and the Code Talkers of WWII.

**VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE ABOUT NAVAJO WEAVING**
--Navajo weavers Barbara Teller Ornelas & Lynda Teller Pete, and Idyllwild Program from Craft In America
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axGeXfOPU84

Discussion about Navajo weaving work with Diné Master Weavers Lunda Pete and Barbara Ornelas
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A15rPbWhfTk

--Navajo Historian Wally Brown talks about Navajo weaving and Spider Woman
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqqfJ4hjCCQ

**LEARNING ABOUT THE NAVAJO LONG WALK**
--This is a link to the Bosque Redondo page the New Mexico Historic Sites. This will provide a lesson plan about the Long Walk and will also explain how to access the book necessary for use in the lesson plan.

**Other videos about the Long Walk...**
--The Long Walk – Southwest Indian Foundation
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=levkjALF_vM

--The Long Walk, Navajo Traditional Teachings
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDb5Wc8HgOo

--Louise Yellowman: The Long Walk to ‘Hweeldi’/ 12:38 minutes
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uY1sYWebih8

continues...
Power Point Presentation about the Long Walk

On the Bosque Redondo Site...
Click on this link...
http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education
Then, Under Grade 6 – 12, click on “Supplemental Materials”
This will open to a folder in which you will find a Power Point presentation about the Long Walk. (There are also some videos listed in the folder, but not all of them are still working links. The links that are accessible are included on this list of resources.)

From the Santa Fe New Mexican Newspaper; a contemporary view (2014) of the Navajo Long Walk
Article includes 3 images, one of which is a map of the Long Walk. Use this article/map for the map Lesson Plan.

THE NAVAJO PEOPLE
--Learning more about the Navajo Nation, their land, places to visit, etc.
https://www.discovernavajo.com

--Website of the Navajo Nation
https://www.navajo-nsn.gov

Bosque Redondo Memorial, New Mexico Historic Sites
The location where the Navajo people were imprisoned after the Long Walk is located in eastern New Mexico. It is called Bosque Redondo and is now a memorial that can be visited. The links below are from the website of the historic site.
- http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/history
- http://nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education

--Bosque Redondo Memorial with interview of Site Manager, Aaron Roth. Great overview.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1rldnzr_Wg

--The Bosque Redondo Memorial and a brief history of how the memorial came to be.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RG8Ex7vLG0M

--Reflection of the Navajo Treaty of 1868. Length: 5 min. This is video of a Navajo gentleman talking about the impact of the Long Walk and resulting treaty on Navajo people.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQgHagWY8o4

continues...
Teece Nos Pos
photos of Teec Nos Pos trading post on yelp
--https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g31376-d1554867-Reviews-
Teec_Nos_Pos_Trading_Post-Teec_Nos_Pos_Apache_County_Arizona.html

Mary Walker, Weaving In Beauty, website about weaving
--https://weavinginbeauty.com/rug-of-the-day/rug-of-the-day-the-teece-nos-pos-rug-a-closer-
look

Nizhoni Gallery – Teec Nos Pos weavings
--https://www.navajorug.com/pages/teec-nos-pos-rugs

Navajo Weaving
An excellent starting point to learn about Navajo weaving...
Dr. Mark Sublette, Quick Guide to Navajo Rugs: What you need to know about these highly collectible
textiles, from Canyon Road Arts: The Complete Visitors Guide to Arts, Dining and the Santa Fe Lifestyle,
https://www.canyonroadarts.com/quick-guide-to-navajo-rugs/

Navajo Museums
Information about various Navajo museums

Navajo Code Talkers
An online source of interviews with several men who served as Code Talkers in WWII
https://navajocodetalkers.org/

- end -
RESOURCES
FOR LEARNING ABOUT NAVAJO PEOPLE, NAVAJO WEAVING, & THE LONG WALK

VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE ABOUT NAVAJO WEAVING
--Navajo weavers Barbara Teller Ornelas & Lynda Teller Pete, and Idyllwild Program from Craft In America
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axGeXfOPU84

Discussion about Navajo weaving work with Diné Master Weavers Lynda Teller Pete and Barbara Ornelas
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A15rPbWhfTk

--Navajo Historian Wally Brown talks about Navajo weaving and Spider Woman
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugqJ4hjCCQ

--Navajo weaver Clara Sherman Carding and Spinning, as well as weaving on her loom
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_p7OlgMVw

HOW TO WEAVE ON A CARDBOARD LOOM
--Bosque Redondo New Mexico Historic Site
http://www.nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo
http://www.nmhistoricsites.org/bosque-redondo/education
Under “Dear Educators…”
Click on the word “here”:
“There are more lessons about our site by clicking here ….”

Then scroll down to:
Activity: Make and Weave on a Cardboard Loom
(Click on the activity photo and it leads to videos and lesson plan for K-12 activity.)

LEARNING ABOUT THE NAVAJO LONG WALK
--This is a link to the Bosque Redondo page the New Mexico Historic Sites.
This will provide a lesson plan about the Long Walk and will also explain how to access the book necessary for use in the lesson plan.

Other videos about the Long Walk...
--The Long Walk – Southwest Indian Foundation
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=levkjALF_vM

--The Long Walk, Navajo Traditional Teachings
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDb5Wc8HgOo

continues...
RESOURCES for Learning About Navajo Weaving, page 2

--Louise Yellowman: The Long Walk to ‘Hweeldi’ / 12:38 minutes
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uY1sYWebih8

Power Point Presentation about the Long Walk
On the Bosque Redondo Site...
Click on this link...
http://nmhistoric sites.org/bosque-redondo/education
Then, Under Grade 6 – 12, click on “Supplemental Materials”
This will open to a folder in which you will find a Power Point presentation about the Long Walk. (There are also some videos listed in the folder, but not all of them are still working links. The links that are accessible are included on this list of resources.)

From the Santa Fe New Mexican Newspaper; a contemporary view (2014) of the Navajo Long Walk
Article includes 3 images, one of which is a map of the Long Walk. Use this article/map for the map Lesson Plan.

THE NAVAJO PEOPLE
--Learning more about the Navajo Nation, their land, places to visit, etc.
https://www.discovernavajo.com

--Website of the Navajo Nation
https://www.navajo-nsn.gov

BOSQUE REDONDO MEMORIAL, NEW MEXICO HISTORIC SITES
The location where the Navajo people were imprisoned after the Long Walk is located in eastern New Mexico. It is called Bosque Redondo and is now a memorial that can be visited. The links below are from the website of the historic site.
- http://nmhistoric sites.org/bosque-redondo/history
- http://nmhistoric sites.org/bosque-redondo/education

--Bosque Redondo Memorial with interview of Site Manager, Aaron Roth. Great overview.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1rldnzr_Wg

--The Bosque Redondo Memorial and a brief history of how the memorial came to be. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RG8Ex7vLGoM

continues...
--Reflection of the Navajo Treaty of 1868. Length: 5 min. This is video of a Navajo gentleman talking about the impact of the Long Walk and resulting treaty on Navajo people.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOgHagWY8o4

*Teece Nos Pos*
photos of Teec Nos Pos trading post on yelp
--https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g31376-d1554867-Reviews-Teec_Nos_Pos_Trading_Post-Teec_Nos_Pos_Apache_County_Arizona.html

*Mary Walker, Weaving In Beauty, website about weaving*

*Nizhoni Gallery -- Teec Nos Pos weavings*
--https://www.navajorug.com/pages/teec-nos-pos-rugs

*Weaving Museum*
Weaving museum at Toadlena, New Mexico

*Navajo Weaving*
An excellent starting point to learn about Navajo weaving...
Dr. Mark Sublette, Quick Guide to Navajo Rugs: What you need to know about these highly collectible textiles, from Canyon Road Arts: The Complete Visitors Guide to Arts, Dining and the Santa Fe Lifestyle,
https://www.canyonroadarts.com/quick-guide-to-navajo-rugs/

- end -