



# ART KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

## Topic: Native American Art and Culture

**YEAR 8**  
**Term 2 (2a)**  
**Native American Crafts**

### Context:

Native American culture goes back thousands of years; to a time when the indigenous people lived in what is now known as North America. Native American culture revolved heavily around nature, and every aspect of their lives was based around the Earth. The Native Americans lived within many different tribes. These tribes were hunter/ gatherers. Some of the most famous well-known tribes of native America were the 'Cherokee, Apache, and the Navajo'. Some of the most famous Native Americans were: Pocahontas and Sitting Bull, to name a few. Films have been created about these Native American people.

The Native American culture loved to explore Art, music, spirit animals and religion. This had a big impact on how they lived. The tribal communities would create many different types of art, most of which would be used make support their lifestyle. Here are some examples: textiles (tee-pee homes, and décor), wood carvings (totem poles, canoe's), ceramics (jugs bowls etc) and paintings. These people were a very creative culture.

Native Americans used various forms of art to decorate their rugs, blankets and other textiles. The art they applied to the textiles often used specific geometric patterns. The Navajo tribe is most famous for the patterns it used in woven textiles. The Navajo people borrowed this style of geometric patterns from the Pueblo people who lived in the southwest area of America. Patterns were geometric in style, often repeated and would be decorated using Earth Colours such as brown, yellow, green, black, orange and yellow. It is these geometric patterns which we will focus on in our art lessons.

### Tasks to complete:

**Week 1: AP1 revision:** Watch the video on Native American symmetrical designs and patterns. In your Home Learning book create a symmetrical design using the turtle image below which has been inspired by Native American motifs, patterns and symbols.

**Week 2:** Practice key literacy vocab 1-5 - look, cover, write, check, correct x 3. Read the sentences again and check for understanding.

**Week 3:** Practice key literacy vocab 5-10 - look, cover, write, check, correct x3. Read the sentences again and check for understanding.

**Week 4:** Watch the video which shows you how to draw a bold dreamcatcher freehand. In your home Learning book follow the instructions and draw the dreamcatcher freehand. Outline using black biro pen, felt pen or black pencil, then use Earth Colours to apply colour.

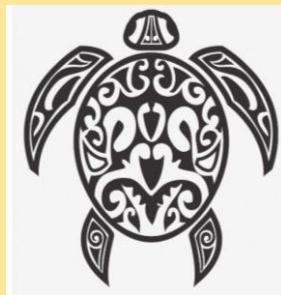
**Week 5:** Watch the video which shows an exhibition of different Native American arts and crafts. In your home learning book list as many different arts and crafts as you can. Which one is your favourite? Explain why.

### Key Literacy Vocabulary:

- Construct:** To make or build something by combining materials, techniques and processes. It also means to create or think of an idea or concept.
- Composition:** This is the way that different elements in a piece of artwork are combined and arranged.
- Repeat Pattern:** The repetition of lines, shapes, tones, colours, textures to create a design.
- Geometric Patterns** - patterns containing shapes, objects or pictures that repeat themselves.
- Motif:** A recurring pattern or design that appears in a work of art.
- Focal point:** The feature in a piece of artwork which is the most interesting.
- Symmetry:** An object or image has symmetry if it can be divided into two identical halves.
- Earth colours** - colours of the earth, for example, brown, brownish-reds, reds.
- Border:** An ornamental/decorative design on the outer part or edge of something.
- Mixed Media:** Artworks which are composed from combining different materials, techniques and processes.



Week 1- scan this QR code to watch the video then create your own Native American turtle symmetrical design which has a border.



Week 4 - Scan this QR code and use the images and templates to create a drawing of a dream catcher. Use colour pens or pencils to apply some colour! Remember to use Earth Colours.

Week 5 - scan this QR code to watch a video about native American crafts. List as many crafts as you can and describe the key features of Native American Arts and Crafts.



Half Term extra-curricular extension just for fun. Watch the video on how to make and create a paper tepee. Use the designs provided to try and create your own!