



The
Brinton
Museum

ART SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you find?

A Guided Tour for grades 1 through 5, with students pairing together in teams of two, or this activity can be adapted for a single grade.

Spring 2018

In the Western Art Gallery:

Out on the prairie, the day's work is done, the cattle are resting, stayin' put until morn. It's time for the wranglers to gather 'round and eat, maybe sing a song or two before they go to sleep.

This scene drawn by the artist **Edward Borein** could be typical of an Old American West cowboy camp.

Hint: The title of this work of art is **Chuckwagon**.

Borein uses black and white, shadows and light, to evoke a feeling or mood as well as the time of day.

Can you "feel" the warmth of the fire? How might this ink drawing have been different in color?

➤ _____

Winold Reiss painted this portrait of **Yellow Woman**, a Blackfeet Indian. She is wearing a beautiful blanket made of red, orange, green, white and blue stripes. Bold, bright colors as well as geometric patterns and shapes are Winold Reiss's trademark. He adeptly uses these design elements to portray a subject's beauty and dignity. Reiss would often carry on conversations with the Blackfeet peoples while he was drawing and painting them. In what part of the United States do the Blackfeet Indians live?

➤ _____

Near the 3rd floor elevator:

The moon and the stars, birds in flight, a bear with a heart, and fish in water!

The artist is **Allan Mardon**. Can you find **The Trickster**? The Trickster is a spirit figure who can take on many forms and is both foolish and wise, a jokester and a prankster. In some American Indian mythologies, the Trickster was said to have stolen fire from the gods. And in some American Indian creation stories, the Trickster taught humans how to catch salmon by making a dam out of logs and branches. Can you find the Trickster as well as all the birds, fish and other critters that appear in this painting?

➤ How many birds do you see? ____ How many animals? ____ How many fish? ____
Turtles? ____ Snakes? ____, and two more: _____ and _____

➤ The Trickster is depicted as what animal in this painting? _____

➤ Explain why this is a good choice for a Trickster _____

In the *To Honor The Plains Nations* exhibit:

Find a **Crow Indian Gun Capturer's Shirt**. This shirt is made of tanned hide, glass beads, porcupine quills, and ermine casings or skin. An Indian warrior needed to accomplish four deeds to earn the right to wear such a shirt that denoted his status as a war chief.

Can you list the four deeds needed for a brave to earn this right?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

What is an ermine? _____

Find an **Apsáalooke (Crow) warbonnet** made with eagle feathers, a buffalo scalp with full horns, owl feathers and red wool. The buffalo was considered sacred by the Plains Indians and was referred to as the Ever Generous One. The Crow word for bison or buffalo is **bisheé**. Name at least three reasons why the buffalo was a 'giver of life' to the Indian peoples.

- _____
- _____
- _____

Indian warbonnets are decorated with eagle feathers. An eagle is the bird that flies closest to the heavens and therefore was considered to be a bird that was closest to the Creator, making it more powerful than other birds. How fast can a Bald Eagle fly? _____

Find a **Lakota woman's dress** that is made of **blue** and **white** beads, ribbon and tanned elk hide. This dress would have been worn for important occasions. The blue represents a lake. The white band around the blue represents the borders of the lake, and the white designs inside the blue represent clouds. What might the colors **green**, **red**, **pink** and **yellow** represent in Indian beadwork?

Green: _____

Red: _____

Pink: _____

Yellow: _____

Answers to the Art Scavenger Hunt questions:

Edward Borein uses the strong contrast of black and white, shadows and light, to accentuate or bring attention to what is otherwise an ordinary scene of cowboy life on the open range. If this work of art had been painted in color, the fire might have been white as well as yellow to represent flames. Perhaps the background might have been dark blue much like Frank Tenney Johnson's painting of a stagecoach traveling at night, *Across the Big Divide*. The Blackfeet Indian Reservation in the United States is located in northwest Montana.

Winold Reiss: The Blackfeet Indians live in northern Montana and Canada.

Allan Mardon's painting: birds **4** (don't forget the goose or swan in the water), animals **2** (a bear and a deer), fish **4** (one fish is barely visible at the lower right of the painting), turtles **1**, snakes, **1**, and an otter and an alligator

The Trickster is a **coyote**.

The coyote is a member of the dog family and is considered to be a **clever** animal. Coyotes are able to adapt to different environments, changing their hunting and eating habits in order to survive. It is perhaps this ability to transform itself that makes the coyote a good choice as a "trickster".

Crow Indian Gun Capturer's Shirt: The four deeds necessary to be worthy of the status of a war chief were:

- 1) Touching an enemy without killing him
- 2) Steal an enemy's horse (the horse must be tied otherwise it was considered to be "free")
- 3) Take an enemy's weapon
- 4) Lead a successful war party

An ermine is a weasel, its coat turns white in winter.

Crow Warbonnet: The buffalo was vital to the Plains Indians' lives. The buffalo's hide was used to make clothing, blankets and coverings for tipis. The bones of a buffalo were used to make tools. The horns were used to make utensils like spoons. The meat provided food. Buffalo hair was used to make ropes and halters.

In their general territory or flying for long distances, Bald Eagles fly about 20 to 30 miles per hour, but can reach speeds up to 75 miles per hour.

The colors in Plains Indians' beadwork represent the following:

Green is the earth

Red is the life force, the color of blood

Pink is the color of the early morning sun

Yellow represents the east, the most sacred of directions, where the sun rises

Assessment:

Advanced	Proficient	Basic	Below Basic
<p>Color & Composition: Demonstrates an excellent understanding of why and how various colors are used in a painting to interpret a mood or feeling, and why lines and shapes balance a composition</p>	<p>Color & Composition: Demonstrates a fair understanding of compositional elements and why an artist uses certain colors and shapes</p>	<p>Color & Composition: Identifies a connect between color and the viewer’s interpretation of what the artist wants to convey</p>	<p>Color & Composition: Does not describe or offer an interpretation of why or how color and composition are effective in creating in a finished work of art</p>
<p>American Indian art: Demonstrates excellent comprehension of why the buffalo was vital to the Indian peoples, and what various colors in Indian art represent</p>	<p>American Indian art: Understands and can explain the relevance of the buffalo to American Indian life and the meaning behind various colors in Indian art</p>	<p>American Indian art: Can list three reasons why the buffalo was called the Ever Generous One, and can identify why various colors were used in Indian art</p>	<p>American Indian art: Shows a basic understanding of why the buffalo was important to the Indians, and can identify colors but cannot connect the have meaning behind them</p>

Gallery Educational Activity Designed by Curator of Exhibitions Barbara McNab
 The Brinton Museum (Big Horn, WY)
 Copyright © December 2016