

Montana Small Schools Alliance
HONORING MONTANA'S FIRST PEOPLES

UNIT: Math-Indian Numbers

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SCHOOL AND COUNTY: Deerfield Colony School in Fergus County

GRADE LEVEL: K-4

INDIAN RESERVATION REFERENCED: Fort Belknap

SUBJECT AREAS: Math, Language

LESSON DESCRIPTION: Learn how to count in a different language.

This lesson will take one day.

SOURCE:

Website: <http://www.geocities.com/aaninin/language.html>

CONTENT STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

World Language Standard 6: Students acquire information and perspectives through authentic materials in world languages and within cultures. Benchmark 1.

Mathematics Standard 2: Students demonstrate understanding of and an ability to use numbers and operations. Benchmark 1.

ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT MONTANA INDIANS:

Essential Understanding 3: The ideologies of Native traditional beliefs and spirituality persist into modern day life as tribal cultures, traditions and languages are still practiced by many American Indian people and are incorporated into how tribes govern and manage their affairs.

Additionally, each tribe has its own oral history beginning with their origins that are as valid as written histories. These histories pre-date the “discovery” of North America.

Editor's Note:

These are a series of eleven short instructional units that integrate various subject area content standards and the Montana American Indian Essential Understanding 3. The different units can be used at different times throughout the year so that students will have several opportunities to learn to Honor Montana's First Peoples of the Fort Belknap and Flathead Reservations. It is suggested that the teacher use the Fort Belknap lessons first.

Before beginning these units, teachers should view the official website of the Fort Belknap Nations (www.fortbelknapnations.nsn.gov) and read the home pages of the histories of the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Peoples. Also, teachers could review and use the three DVD's provided to all Montana school districts by the Indian Education for All Program at OPI. The three are *Long Ago in Montana*, *Talking without Words*, and *Tribes in Montana*. In addition, the author has provided some specific resources for these units.

OBJECTIVES:

In our study of the American Indian Cultures, the students will learn how to count to the number 20 in a different language.

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE:

Students will understand the meaning of some of the different words of the Gros Ventre People, and have an understanding of why it is important to continue studying the culture.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

List of Gros Ventre numbers to 20. (See attached sheet.)

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

Discuss with students the importance of keeping different cultures from fading away. Explain to the class that they will be learning how to count to the number 20 in Gros Ventre. Find different items from the classroom to practice counting. Students will write story problems using the Gros Ventre numbers. The story problems should vary from addition and subtraction for the younger students, to multiplication and division for the older students. Students exchange the story problems, match the Gros Ventre numbers with the English numbers, and solve the problems.

ASSESSMENT:

The assessment will be the story problems that the students have written. The teacher will look to make sure that the students are matching the numbers correctly and solving the problems.

Gros Ventre Numbers

One	-	Gathay
Two	-	Neeth
Three	-	Nath
Four	-	Yan
Five	-	Yadone
Six	-	Nay Gia Dos
Seven	-	Nee Tha Dos
Eight	-	Na Tha Dos
Nine	-	An Ha Bate Da Dos
Ten	-	Bate Da Dos
Eleven	-	Gathane
Twelve	-	Neesin
Thirteen	-	Nasin
Fourteen	-	Yanneen
Fifteen	-	Yaddonnen
Sixteen	-	Nay Gia Du Tsin
Seventeen	-	Nee Tha Tsin
Eighteen	-	Na Tha Tsin
Nineteen	-	An Ha Ba Da Tsin
Twenty	-	Nee Tho

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