Online Exhibit Activities – FOR STUDENT

Trade Game

Objective: Demonstrate the process of trading ideas, materials, and methods through an interactive art game. Students must cooperate with one another to share and trade their cards in their artistic process.

Supplies:

- 30 trade cards
- One pottery, jewelry, or textile pattern sheet per student
- Markers or colored pencils for drawing

Instructions:

1. Select your pattern sheet (pottery, jewelry, or textile)

2. Make sure the instructor gives you one trade card.

3. Choose two different colored pencils or markers.

4. Look at your trade card. Take note of what is on the card and draw on your pattern sheet what is provided on the card. For example, if your trade card shows an image of a bird draw your own artistic interpretation of the bird image on your pattern sheet. If your trade card shows the word 'dancing', draw your own artistic interpretation of the act of dancing on your pattern sheet.

5. Once you are done drawing look at the trade cards of your peers. Do you see an image that you want to incorporate into your art? If so, you must ask to trade your card for their card. You may not draw an image until you secure the trade card with your desired image.

6. Continue trading cards with your peers and adding new designs and colors to your pattern sheet until you feel you have completed your artistic creation.

7. Congratulations! You just participated in the process of trade in your artwork!

Post-activity Discussion

Now that you have completed the Trade Game here are a few questions to help you think about what you have learned!

1) What sort of objects, ideas, materials, or methods have you traded with your peers in today's activity?

2) How can looking at art objects help us understand the trade process in recent history?

3) How do you think ideas are traded among different groups of people?

4) How do think trade has affected art practice in the Southwest?

5) How do you think trade historically affected the location of human populations?

Learn more!

Visit these websites to learn more about the communities and art featured in the online exhibit. Also, check out other online exhibitions produced by the National Museum of the American Indian about more Native American art.

a) Weaving – Navajo
   i) http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/exhibits/navajoweave/teachers_parents.shtml
   ii) http://www.navajo.org/history.htm
b) Pottery – 19 different tribes
   i) http://www.indianpueblo.org/
c) Jewelry – Zuni
   i) http://www.ashiwi.org/
   ii) http://www.millicentrogers.org/pueblo_jewelry.htm
d) Other Native trade: http://www.nmai.si.edu/wooltrade/default.asp
e) *Identity by Design* online exhibit: http://www.nmai.si.edu/exhibitions/identity_by_design/IdentityByDesign.html
f) *Brian Jungen - Strange Comfort* online exhibit: http://www.nmai.si.edu/exhibitions/jungen/
g) *Remix* – New Modernities in a Post Indian World: http://www.nmai.si.edu/exhibitions/remix/