

# Analyzing Point of View – Chief Rosebud Remembers Lewis and Clark

## Fast Facts

Curriculum Area: Social Studies  
Grade Level: Grades 7-8  
Suggested Duration:

## Stage 1 Desired Results

### Established Goals

**Social Studies Standard 4, Benchmark 8.6** Students will explain how and why events may be interpreted differently according to the points of view of participants, witness, reporters and historians.

Students will view and analyze an American Indian perspective (specifically from the Assiniboine) regarding the Lewis and Clark expedition.

### Understandings

- History is a story most often related through the subjective experience of the teller. With the inclusion of more and varied voices, histories are being rediscovered and revised.
- History told from an Indian perspective frequently conflicts with the stories mainstream historians tell. (EU 6)

### Essential Questions

- Which Montana tribal nations discovered Lewis and Clark coming through their territory?
- Does the perspective given in the video conflict with what you have previously learned?
- Why is it important to examine historical events from multiple perspectives?

### Students will be able to...

- briefly describe how one Montana tribe perceived the Lewis and Clark expedition.

### Students will know...

- an American Indian viewpoint regarding Lewis and Clark.

## Stage 2 Assessment Evidence

### Performance Tasks

1. Students will view and analyze the DVD entitled: *Assiniboine Chief Rosebud Remembers Lewis and Clark* (the Office of Public Instruction has sent a copy of this DVD to every Montana school library please check with your school librarian).

## Stage 3 Learning Plan

### Learning Activities

#### Day 1

Briefly introduce students to the topic of Lewis and Clark. Lead a class discussion/ brainstorming session to see what they already know. List topics/issues on the board.

Save at least 35 minutes of class time to allow for viewing the entire DVD.

Tell students they will be watching a film that has English subtitles with spoken Assiniboine (Nakoda). The film is from the perspective of the Assiniboine and is a re-enactment of one group's reaction when they discovered the expedition. Ask students to write a one-page reaction paper to the film. Ask open ended questions: What new information did they learn? How may this video have conflicted with what they have been previously taught? How might these perspectives differ from what is in your history textbook? What was it like hearing the Assiniboine language being spoken? Was it hard for you to watch and read the subtitles?

Tell them their one-page reaction papers will be due at the next class.

Things to keep in mind as you hear/read primary sources from a tribe about a particular event in history:

- With regard to events such as Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery, Montana tribal histories offer differing points of view from those expressed in your American history textbook.
- Your history textbook and a tribal history each represent "points of view"; the point of view changes, depending on whose story is being told.
- Identifying and respecting another culture's viewpoints of historical events is basic to your understanding of how histories can influence our ideas and points of view.
- Events from the past and how they are viewed by tribes and by the U.S. government still cause issues of concern today.
- The "discovery" of an area is not necessarily a discovery. Indigenous people had been in the area explored by the expedition for hundreds (probably thousands) of years.

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### Day 2

Lead a class discussion on the major issues covered in the film. List on the board new information gained as a result of watching this film.

Have students review their textbook. How are Lewis and Clark portrayed? What specific words and images define them? Is a balanced perspective offered?

Allow students time to add to or revise their one-page reaction papers and have them hand it in at the end of the class period.

### Resources

- *Assiniboine Chief Rosebud Remembers Lewis and Clark*, DVD sent to all schools
- [Lewis and Clark Trail - Tribal Legacy Project: Digital Archive Presenting Tribal Perspectives on Our Shared History Web site](#)
- [Lewis and Clark journals](#)