



Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center
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This lesson was created by a teacher participating in a Wisconsin ESEA Improving Teacher Quality grant entitled Inquiry Based Technology-Mediated Teacher Professional Development and Application.

Title: People / Culture

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Grade Level: 7th

Subjects: Social Studies

Objectives: Students will understand both past and present examples of how people use of natural resources.

WI Standards: Social Studies A.8.5

Duration: Four class periods or two block

Materials/Supplies: Organizational chart (student created chart), computer, Africa textbook

Vocabulary: Archaeology, culture, natural resources

Background: Each student has an assigned role (reporter, researcher, materials, group representative). Students will work off of the selected websites as resources and primary source of information.

Setting the Stage: Start class with a KWL discussion about the prehistoric cultures in Wisconsin to see what students know about the topic.

Procedure: Students research cultural overviews on MVAC website to gather information about the prehistoric cultures in Wisconsin. Students take notes and summarize the information. After researching about the prehistoric cultures in Wisconsin, students will rotate through stations and work as research teams to identify artifacts, pictures, and evidence related to one of the four cultures. Students can work in pairs or groups to organize the information into a chart. Next, students take notes and summarize information from the Africa textbook and National Geographic posters. Students sort through information from the categories and create

a comparison chart to illustrate the similarities and differences between African tribes and the Prehistoric peoples of Wisconsin. Students present their findings to the class with a visual aid. (poster / chart)

- Closure: Discussion of how people use resources-how does it change over time?
How do available resources affect culture and living situations?
- Evaluation: Students successfully complete their comparison chart of four prehistoric cultures to selected African tribes.
- Links/Extension: Independent learning contracts with students to further pursue an area of interest.
- References: -MVAC website at: <http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac/>
-National Geographic posters and selected passages from the Africa textbook.