

**LESSON: Native American Parfleche****GRADE: 2****OBJECTIVE:****Reading-****Integration of Knowledge & Ideas-**

- **RL.2.7** Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

**MATERIALS & RESOURCES:**

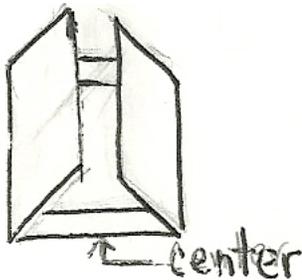
- Books:
  - *Gift Horse*, S.D. Nelson
  - *Welcome to Kaya's World*, D. Raymer
- Brown paper grocery bags
- Rulers or yardstick
- Pencils & crayons
- Raffia or leather lacing
- Donated beads
- Feathers
- Paper punches
- Sticks
- Paint & brushes
- Scissors

**PRESENTATION:**

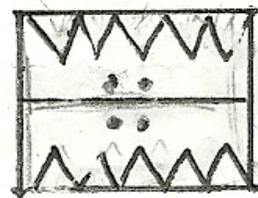
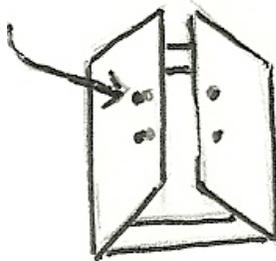
Read the book, *Gift Horse*, Nelson. Discuss with students the Native American (actually, multicultural) concept of respect and reverence for animals, in particular the way in which all parts of the hunted animal are used so as to avoid waste. Read pages 34-35 of the book, *Welcome to Kaya's World*. Explain that although we are not hunting for the hide, we will be making our own version of parfleches, and honoring the environment by using as many recycled materials as possible. While Native Americans used their parfleches to carry food for a journey by horse, we might use ours like a folder or storage envelope for drawings, homework, etc. Encourage children to find sticks on the playground or at home to use as their paintbrushes. Ask them to bring beads that aren't being used, or feathers.

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Cut open grocery bags and lay flat. Use yardstick to measure an 18"x24" rectangle and cut it out.
2. Fold about 2" of the long sides in toward the middle. Then, fold the long edges toward each so that they meet in the middle.



3. Using pencils, draw repeat designs along the edges, using simple geometric designs such as triangles, diamonds, rectangles, and zigzags. Color very heavily with crayon using limited color palette of 3 colors. Leave some spaces uncolored, left to paint with stick paintbrushes.
4. Show students how to peel back bark from the end of the sticks and fray the edges to create a brush. Pass out one color of tempera or acrylic paint to each table and let kids paint in the blank spaces with stick brush. (Commercial paintbrushes can be made available, but all students should try painting with the stick brush first)
5. Punch 4 holes; 2 holes toward center of one long edge, then 2 holes across from first two, on the opposite long edge. See figure below. Use raffia or leather lacing to tie parfleche closed.



6. Students may add a few beads or feathers knotted to the end of the ties, if desired.

**TIME:****45-90 min**