

Horses of the North American West

Worksheet

The online exhibition, Horses in the North American West, features the research of Dr. William Taylor, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, and Curator of Archaeology at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History. Visit the exhibit online and use the questions below to guide your exploration.

Exhibit Introduction

- The study of _____ and _____ allows us to understand the ways horses influenced human history.

Native Voices

Watch and listen carefully to each interview conducted by University of Colorado Ph.D. candidate Carlton Quinn Shield Chief Gover. Answer the following questions for each video.

Horses in Pueblo History and Culture

(Christopher Chavez, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Santo Domingo Pueblo, New Mexico)

- What group introduced horses to the American Southwest?
 - _____
- When horses were accepted in Pueblo communities, what did they come to spiritually symbolize in Pueblo culture?
 - _____
- List two ways we know horses are respected in Pueblo communities?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____



Horses in Ioway History and Culture

(Lance Foster, Vice-Chairman and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska)

- In the Ioway story “Two-Legged Creature,” who is the “Two-legged Creature?”
 - _____
- In the Ioway story “Two-Legged Creature,” how do the animals view man?
 - _____
- In the Ioway story “Two-Legged Creature,” which animals volunteer to stay with man as companions and guardians?
 - _____

Horses in Pawnee History and Culture

(Matt Reed, Historic Preservation Officer, Pawnee Nation)

- Horses are very important in Pawnee culture. As described in the video, what are the Pawnee known for, in relation to horses?
 - _____
- In the Pawnee story about the Man finding the first horse, which of the horse’s body parts is incorporated into the “Doctor Dance” ceremony after its death?
 - _____
- List three important changes in Pawnee culture caused by the introduction of the horse.
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

Interactive 3D Models

Investigate each 3D model. Use your mouse to turn the models around and look at them from multiple angles. Click on the numbers to read additional facts about the specimen or object. Scroll down to find a summary of the model contents. Answer the following questions after exploring the interactive elements.

- Name the two types of bridles found in the 3D models. What cultures does the Navajo bridle take elements from?

○ _____

- List three ways Mesohippus was different from modern domestic horses.

○ _____

Vocabulary

In your own words, define the following words:

- Mesohippus
- Matrix
- Bit
- *Coscojos*
- Port
- Curb bit
- Ring
- Girth
- Saddlehorn
- Reins
- Trailing rope
- Petroglyph
- Tipi circles

