

Lesson: Bison Facts

Grade Level: 4

Standard:

Culture- 4.6.2 Explain the contributions of various ethnic groups (e.g., Native Americans, immigrants) to the history of North Dakota (e.g., food, traditions, languages, celebrations).

Language Arts- W.2.a Introduce a topic or text clearly, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.

Objective: 4th grade students will explore the bison's role in culture, habitat, and modern-day North Dakota by creating a poster with fellow classmates and through further reading in booklets and will be able to describe these facts to the instructor. Students understand the importance of culture, individual identity, and group identity.

Materials:

- Poster paper
- Markers/ Crayons
- Bison cut outs
- Print paper (white)
- Bison booklet
- Pencils

Anticipatory Set/ Hook: The students will be given a cutout of a bison and a blank sheet of paper. From their knowledge of bison, they will be asked to draw where they think the bison lives in its natural habitat. They will need to produce a color drawing, which is creative as well as realistic. Once the drawing is complete, students will place the bison somewhere on their drawing.

Activity/Procedures: Students will get a chance to interact with one another and share what they have created for the bison's habitat. They will also be able to share with the person next to them why they chose certain items to be in their drawings.

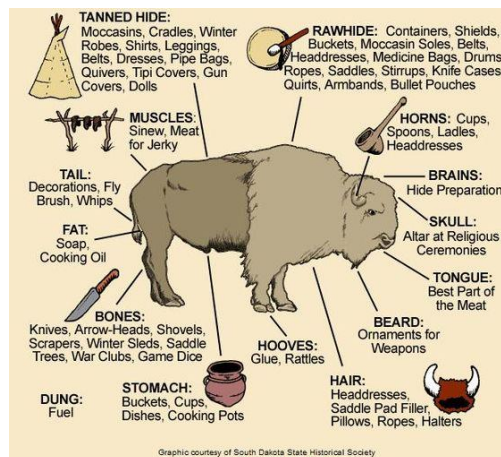
Students will be put into groups of 4 to 5 and there will be 4 groups. Each group will be asked to research/ look up the answers to a set of questions, which will be provided to each group (see page 3).

After all these questions have been answered and reviewed by the instructor, each group will be provided a poster paper and asked to draw a picture of their own bison, nice and big on the center of the poster paper. This will need to be in color (color of choice). Next, in marker students write down what they have researched/ looked up about bison and write the facts out on the poster paper. It will need to be written nice and big somewhere on the poster paper. Make sure students use lots of colors and neatness is encouraged. The posters will be displayed around the room.

Follow Up/Closure: Students will be given a bison booklet. The booklet will be blank and the students will be asked to fill out 3 pages of the booklet with their favorite facts and/or the ones they had found most interesting from their research. Some students will be asked to share what they have written in their booklets and when assignment is complete they will be able to take the booklets home.

Assessment: Students will be put back into their groups they had for creating posters. The instructor will ask a question pertaining to bison facts. Every group will be given a white board (or a sheet of paper) and one student from that group will answer the question. The students will take turns answering the questions and whoever can come up with the answer the fastest will gain 2 points for their team, while everyone else will gain 1 point.

Additional Differentiated Activities: If there was a child with autism in the class the background will already be drawn and colored for them (or a print out of a background). They will be given a bison cut out and will be able to place it anywhere they want on the drawing.



(example of a group poster)

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer the questions that your group was assigned. Make sure to work as a group and have everyone contribute.

Group 1

What is the proper name for a baby bison?

A grown male bison can weigh as much as _____ lbs.

How many babies can a female bison have each year?

Are bison sacred to Native Americans? True or False

How many bison roam the land today?

Group 2

How much can a baby bison weigh at birth?

A male bison is 6ft tall. True or False

Which season is mating season?

What product was popular for Native Americans to wear?

Railroads were used to kill bison. True or False

Group 3

What is the iconic symbol of the American West?

Which conditions are bison able to live in?

What goods were bison used for?

How long are baby bison nursed by their mother's milk?

What is the name for female bison?

Group 4

How long does it take for a baby bison to walk after birth?

Can a female bison be pregnant for 9 ½ months?

How many pounds of food do bison need per day?

In some Native American tribes who wore the bison mask?

Indian tribes raise bison in order for their population to raise again. True or False

Name: _____

Answer key

Date: _____

Answer the questions that your group was assigned. Make sure to work as a group and have everyone contribute.

Group 1

What is the proper name for a baby bison? **Calf**

A grown male bison can weigh as much as **2000** lbs.

How many babies can a female bison have each year? **One**

Are bison sacred to Native Americans? **True** or False

How many bison roam the land today? **400,000**

Group 2

How much can a baby bison weigh at birth? **40-50lbs**

A male bison is 6ft tall. **True** or False

Which season is mating season? **Late summer**

What product was popular for Native Americans to wear? **Bison robes**

Railroads were used to kill bison. **True** or False

Group 3

What is the iconic symbol of the American West? **The Bison**

Which conditions are bison able to live in? **Any condition**

What goods were bison used for? **Food and clothing**

How long are baby bison nursed by their mother's milk? **6 to 12 months**

What is the name for female bison? **Cow**

Group 4

How long does it take for a baby bison to walk after birth? **10 minutes**

Can a female bison be pregnant for 9 ½ months? **Yes**

How many pounds of food do bison need per day? **30**

In some Native American tribes who wore the bison mask? **The tribe leader**

Indian tribes raise bison in order for their population to raise again. **True** or False