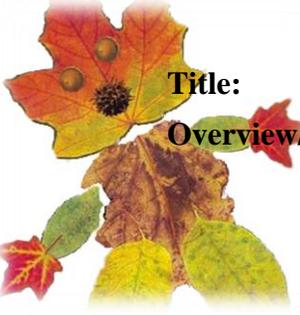


Russell Cave

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Russell Cave
National Monument



Title:

The Medicine Leaf Man

Overview/Annotation:

The teacher will briefly discuss Mississippian time period medicine men. The teacher will read *Leaf Man* by Louis Elbert and discuss leaves of various trees that grow in Russell Cave National Monument and the surrounding North Alabama area that were used for medicinal purposes. Students will then create a medicine man using the discussed medicinal leaves and tree parts.

Content Standard(s):

AEVA (K) 6.) Identify artistic characteristics of cultures, times, and places.

AEVA (1) 1.) Create works of art using a variety of techniques.

AEVA (2) 7.) Describe artistic styles of various cultures, times, and places.

SC (K) 9.) Identify seasons of the year.

SC (1) 4.) Describe survival traits of living things, including color, shape, size, texture, and covering.

SC (3) 7.) Describe the life cycle of plants, including seed, seed germination, growth, and reproduction.

SS (2) 1.) Compare features of modern-day living to those of the past.

SS (4) 2.) Describe cultures, governments, and economies of prehistoric and historic Native Americans in Alabama

Local/National Standards:

NS.K-4.7 HISTORY OF NATURE AND SCIENCE:

As a result of activities in grades K-4, all students should develop understanding of science as a human endeavor.

Students will:

- Demonstrate basic knowledge of a Mississippian time



period medicine man.

- Identify seven medicinal plants found around Russell Cave.
- Describe medicinal uses for the plant found.

Materials and Equipment:

1. *Leaf Man* by Louis Elhert
2. Basswood leaf – 1 per student
3. Yellow Poplar leaf- 1 per student
4. Red Maple Leaf- 2 per student
5. Sourwood Leaf- 4 per student
6. Black Walnut Leaf- 2 per student
7. Sweet Gum ball- 1 per student
8. Acorn- 2 per student
9. Contact paper
10. low temperature glue gun

Technology Resources Needed:

Digital projector, computer, screen - interactive or not.

Background/Preparation:

Set up for the program:

1. It is recommended that this lesson be taught in autumn
2. Collect leaves, acorns, and gumballs
3. Group baskets containing the following for a group of 3-4 students:
 - a. Basswood leaf – 1 per student
 - b. Yellow Poplar leaf- 1 per student
 - c. Red Maple Leaf- 2 per student
 - d. Sourwood Leaf- 4 per student
 - e. Black Walnut Leaf- 2 per student
 - f. Sweet Gum ball- 1 per student
 - g. Acorn- 2 per student
4. Cut contact paper into 16”x 18” pieces (2 per student)