



Topic: How did the Timucua Dress?

Level: 8th-12th grade

Site of Activity: Classroom pre-activity, 15 minutes

Designed by: Pamela James, Teacher to Ranger to Teacher, Sandalwood High School

Theme: Culture and Clothing

Goal: Students will be able identify how certain styles and dress have been transmitted from one society to another over thousands of years.

Objectives:

Students will understand the cultural characteristics of the Timucua people by:

1. Comparing and contrasting modern versus historic dress by viewing pictures of style and dress.
2. Observing how that style has been transmitted from their society to ours.

Sunshine State Standards

SSA 331

Materials Needed:

1. Background Reading (included below)
2. Images of elements of modern dress that contain attributes of Timucua dress (this will require an internet search – see instructions on lesson plan page 3).
3. Pencil and paper

Directions:**Part 1: Picture Show**

Students you will be viewing 7 current or modern pictures, as you view the pictures write down yes or no if you believe that the Timucua engaged in these styles.

The teacher will displays the seven pictures on a projector or paper. They are:

1. Twisted hair pulled up
2. Tattoos
3. Blue jeans
4. Body piercings
5. The wearing of long painted finger nails
6. Tennis shoes
7. Woven mini skirt

Make sure to allow time for your students to share their answers.

Part 2: Show picture of Timucuan

The teacher will now display the picture of the Timucua Indian while reading the background information below.

Background Reading:

The Timucuan wore loin cloths due to the heat; clothing was minimal. Men's loin cloths were made of deer skin and sometimes woven palm fronds. They did not wear shoes at all the (Timucuans were always shown barefooted). Their toenails were sharpened and occasionally they would wear ankle bracelets. Many Timucua decorated their skin with tattooing and paint in the shades of blue, red, and black.

Timucuan chiefs and members of their families had the greatest number of markings. Hair was worn long. The women's hair flowing loose and the men's twisted and fastened on top of their heads. Timucuans didn't wear blue jeans they had not even been invented. Besides it was too hot and cumbersome to hunt in long heavy pants. Both men and women wore long painted fingernails which could be used as weapons and men and women had pierced ears in which they wore inflated fish bladders or ear pins made of shell.

Closure:

The teacher will have a class discussion to recap information and to compare and contrast the Timucua style with how we dress today.

Ask students if they see anything else in the passage or in the picture that the Timucua people wore that we also wear today. Answers could include ankle bracelets, arm bracelets, hats, etc.

Special Note:

Teachers please use an internet search engine such as google.com, yahoo.com or msn.com to find pictures of the following items:

- 1. Twisted hair pulled up**
- 2. Tattoos**
- 3. Blue jeans**
- 4. Body piercings**
- 5. The wearing of long painted finger nails**
- 6. Tennis shoes**
- 7. Woven mini skirt**