

Plains Indians - Grades 3-6

Make your own village with these patterns and your imagination.

Preparation:

Research the Plains Indian tribes. Plains Indians used buffalo and deer hides for almost everything they needed, including clothing, their teepees, and containers to hold things. They even cooked stew using a skin bag and putting hot stones into it. For the most part, there was no pottery or woven fabric.



Materials Needed:

Paper patterns, construction paper, colored pencils, scissors, tacky glue. Extra shades of brown and tan colored pencils are desirable. Optional knit 'suede' fabric to make animal skins, tiny rocks (for a firepit), green lichen (used to make plants in model railroads), and other small accessories.

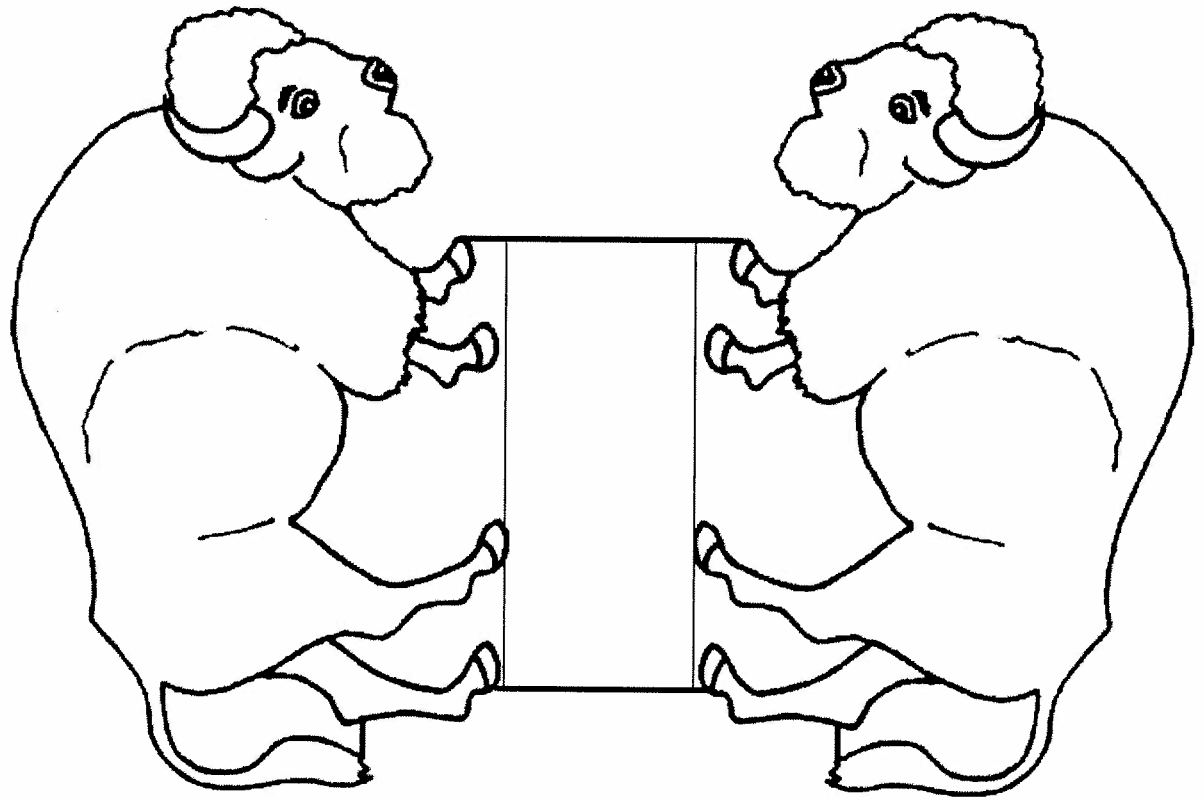
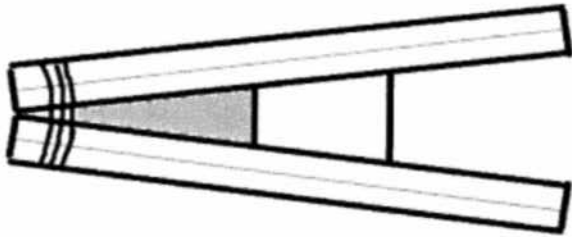
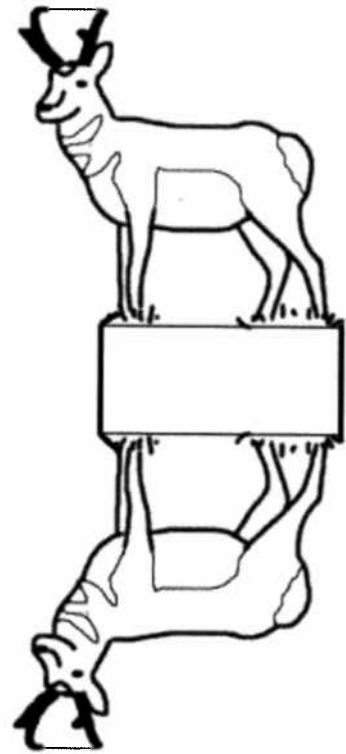
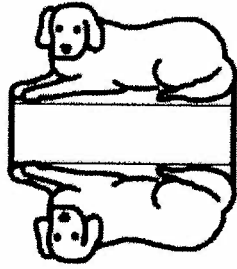
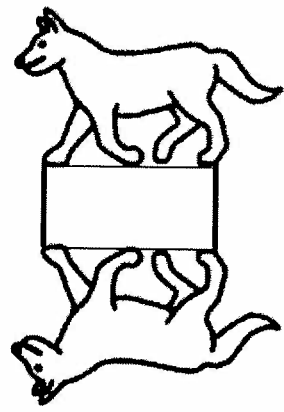
Directions:

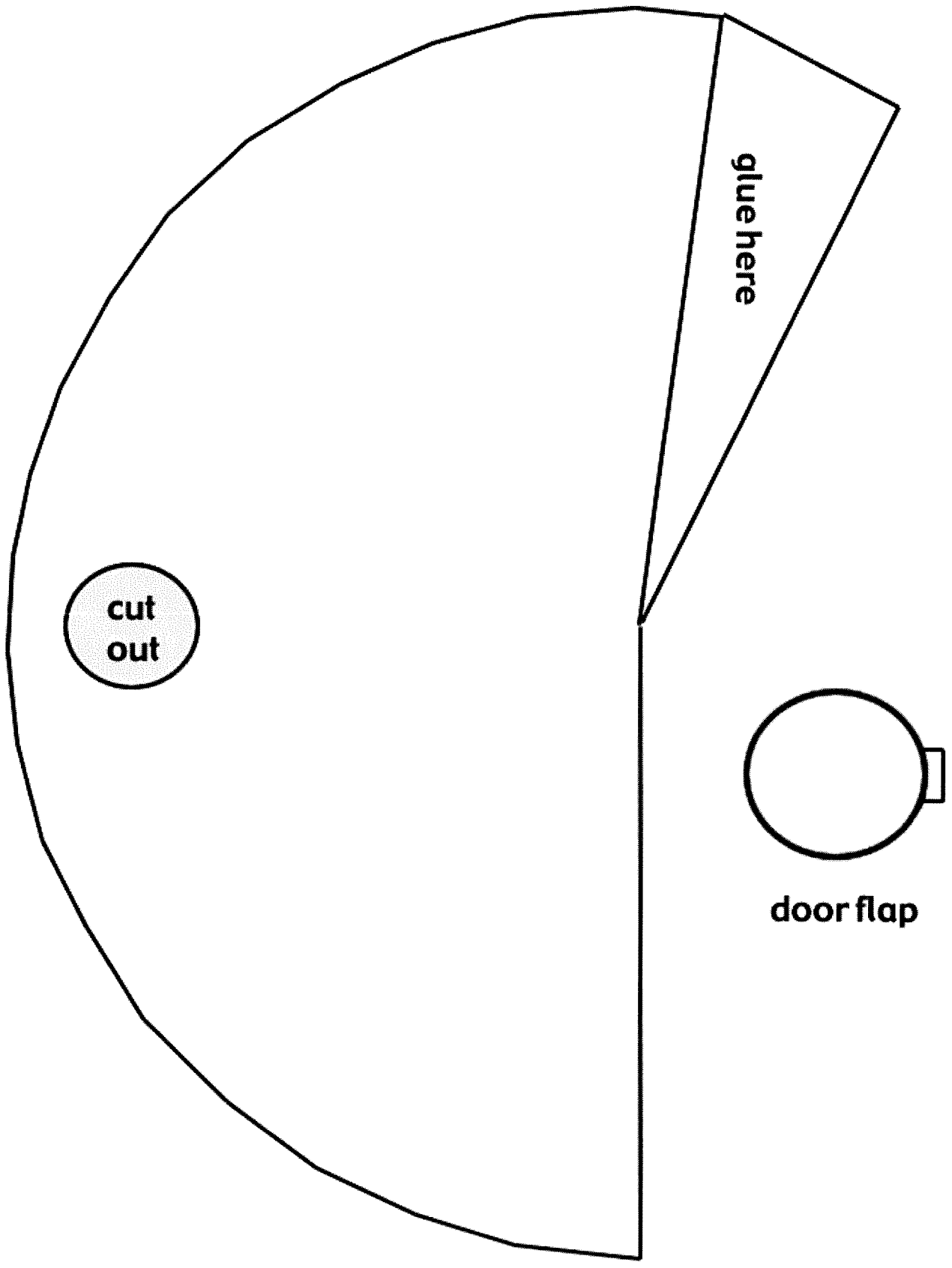
- 1) Color the patterns. Students may decorate the sides of the teepee.
- 2) Carefully cut out the individual pieces.
- 3) Assembling Teepee: Cut out the circle marked 'cut out'. Apply glue to the large flap, curve the teepee around to form a cone, and hold for a minute until the glue holds. Put a drop of glue behind the rectangle above the circular door, and glue to the teepee.
- 4) Assembling Travois: Cut out the gray triangular area. Fold the two long 'sticks' in half along the gray lines to strengthen them. Apply tiny spots of glue as needed to the 'sticks'. Set aside on a flat surface to dry. After the dog is assembled (next step), the travois can be laid across his back.
- 5) Assembling Animals and People: Make sharp folds at the base. Put some tiny drops of glue behind the heads (heads and backs of animals) and press them together.
- 6) Arrange your village.

Project Ideas:

Students can work in small groups to each build their own village or the entire class can work together turning a table into a village with a buffalo herd off to one side and pronghorns to another. Students can also create their own animals and people to add to the scene, and other little props to bring their village to life.

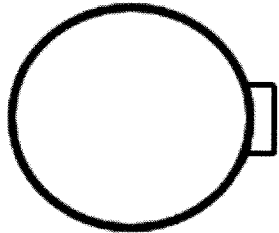
This project is rated for older grades because of the detailed coloring and cutting. Younger grades can make the teepee or the larger version of the dog with travois easily. They could also work on this project with 'buddies' from an older grade.



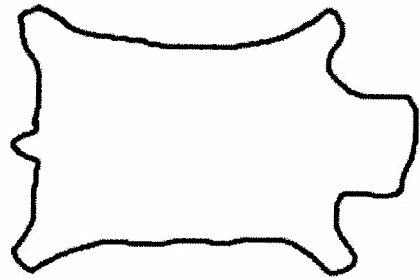
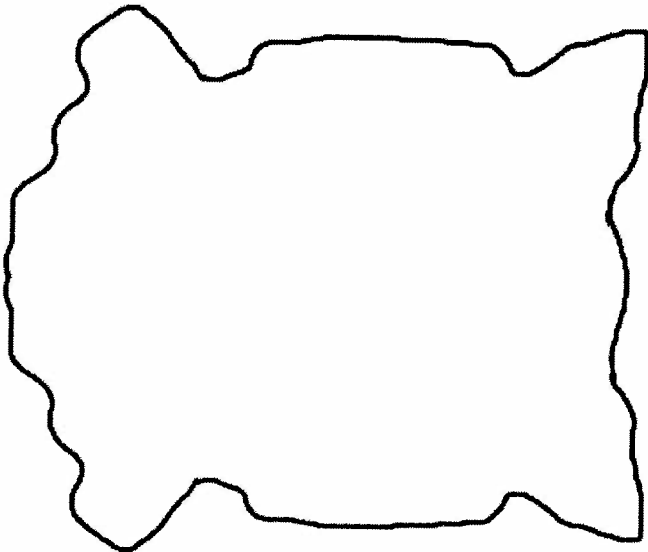
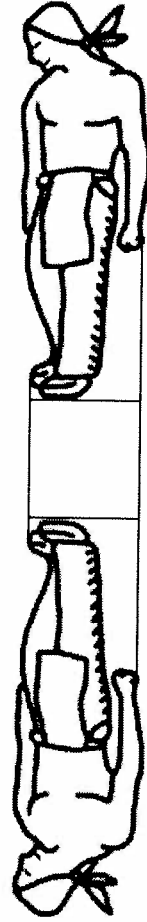
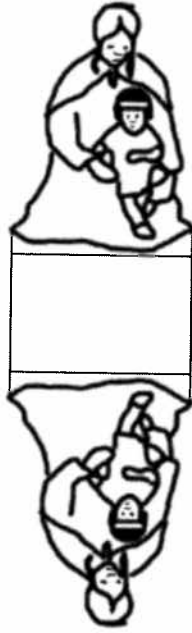
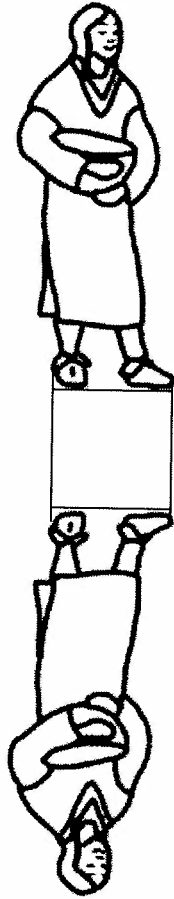
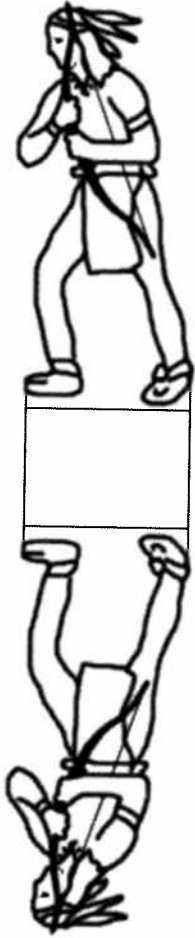


cut
out

glue
here



door flap





**Large
Dog with Travois**

