

NATIVE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

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GRADE LEVEL: Elementary

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Religion was something that surrounded man at all times

A means of enabling your students to relate to in a meaningful way and thereby increase understanding.

NATIVE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

RESOURCE BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books:

Bailey, McLeish, & Spearman, Gods & Men. New York: Oxford  
University Press, 1981.

topic of interest: Coyote, The Trickster

Bleeker, Sonia, The Chippewa Indians. New York: William Morrow  
& Company, 1955.

topic of interest: The Medicine Man

Bleeker, Sonia, The Delaware Indians. New York: William Morrow  
& Company, 1953.

topic of interest: The Delaware Indians

Hofsinde, Robert (Grey-Wolf), The Indians' Secret World.  
New York: William Morrow & Company, 1955.

topic of interest: Kachinas and The Medicine Pipe

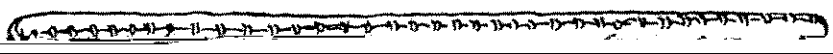
three objects  
wrapped in leather



black  
"charm stone"



miniature bowl

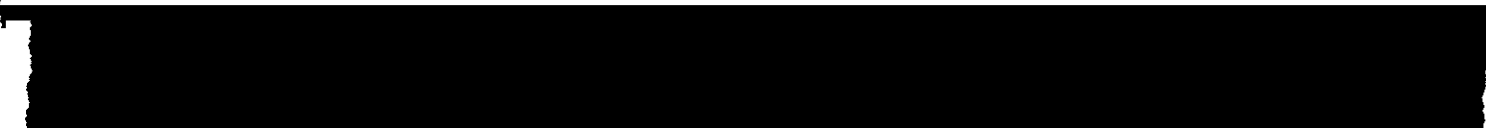


leather-covered stick

# MASKS

Masks were often used in religious ceremonies or in dancing—just for fun! The mask below is a “fruit mask.”

The mask on this page was worn on ceremonial occasions by the Indian chief. The sections rising from the top of the hat show the chief's rank within the tribe, just as a sergeant's stripes indicate his position in the armed forces.



# THE PEACE PIPE

The **peace pipe** was a sacred instrument used in religious, social, and political ceremonies. Decorations on the pipe and even the way it was held and passed on had significance. Smoking the peace pipe was a signal that the smoker gave a pledge of honor.

1. Start with a long rectangular shape for the stem of the pipe.



2. Add a small rectangle for the bowl of the pipe in which the tobacco was placed. Shape the opposite end of the pipe—that's the mouthpiece.

3. Add several small circles at the top of the bowl and several along the stem. These



Most pipes were made of wood, clay, or stone with designs cut into them. Pipe stems were often decorated with feathers, horsehair, or colored cloth.

1. Start with a long, narrow rectangle.



# KACHINA DOLL

The Pueblo people believed that the

