**NATIVE AMERICAN ARTIFACTS ASSIGNMENT HELP GUIDE**

**ASSIGNMENT:** Research Native American artifacts, such as those at the Field Museum

**REVIEW:**

The instructions for the Assignment

The resources on the Library’s **Anthropology Research Guide**: <http://codlrc.org/anthropology>

The Library’s **Citing Sources** guide: <http://www.cod.edu/library/research/citenet.htm>

**BACKGROUND READINGS:**

“Artifacts”, from the *Encyclopedia of Archaeology*: <https://cod.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search.credoreference.com/content/entry/estarch/artifacts_overview/0>

“Material Culture”, from the *Encyclopedia of Social and Cultural Anthropology*: <https://cod.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search.credoreference.com/content/entry/routencsca/material_culture/0>

Essay on Understanding Artifacts, from the Smithsonian Institution: <http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/idealabs/ap/essays/looking.htm>

**THINKING ABOUT THE RESEARCH PROCESS:**

**First,** try to find general information on the artifact, the type of artifact it is, which tribe it is associated with, and perhaps a specific or general location associated with this artifact.

**Second,** conduct more research about the artifact, about its construction, uses, and importance to the group/tribe and its society/culture/history.

**Third**, conduct more research about the group/tribe and its society/culture/history. Look for more information about how this artifact might have been used.

**Fourth,** conduct research about the location where the group/tribe was/is located.

**THINKING ABOUT THE RESOURCES TO USE:**

Use the Library Catalog to find books about the group/tribe, and the location.

Use the journal databases to find articles about the artifact, activity, the group/tribe.

Use Google to find information about the artifact, the activity, the group/tribe, the location, maps, and pictures of the artifact. Make sure that they are reputable websites. Ask the Librarians for help in figuring this out.

Reference books on Native Americans can be found in Reference E 77 – E 99 ranges.

For reference books about Place Names, look here: <http://codlrc.org/geography#placenames>

And at: Native American Placenames of the United States. Reference E 98 .N 2 B 75 2004

**OTHER IMPORTANT BOOKS:**

*Dictionary of Artifacts.* Reference CC 70 .K 55 2007

*Material Culture: Understanding Everyday Life.* Reference GN 560 .U 6 M 37 2008

*Daily Life of Native Americans from Post-Columbian through Nineteenth-Century*

*America*. General E 77.4 .N 36 2006

*Daily Life of Native Americans in the Twentieth Century*. General E 98 .S 7 F 59 2006

*Everyday Life among the American Indians*. General E 98 .S 7 M 68 2001

*Word Dance: The Language of Native American Culture*. Reference E76.2 .W3 6 1994

You can use Dictionaries to find definitions of words.

You can use Encyclopedias for overview articles of groups/tribes, activities, and locations.

Then comes the hard part: reading through the material and picking out bits and pieces of information that you can use in your paper on the artifact.

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