



## Classroom Curriculum

Culture Kids provides qualifying children and their families free, year-round admission to some of the area's top cultural facilities. Each of has created an activity to help introduce their organization to young children in a classroom setting.

Institution	Buffalo Soldiers Museum
Title	<b>Journey of the Buffalo Soldiers</b>
Length	~60 minutes
Objective	For Pre-k to Kindergarten to gain a new perspective and learn about a prevalent piece of American and Military history. Children will learn about life styles in the 1900's (food, clothing, shelter) then in comparison to now.
Vocabulary	<b>Buffalo Soldier:</b> An African American Soldier on horseback who served in the United States Army. <b>Native American:</b> A group of people that lived in the Americas before the explorers. <b>Journey:</b> To travel for a long time and great distance. <b>Bravery:</b> Doing something even though it is difficult. <b>Honor:</b> Someone who is honesty, fair and regarded with great respect.
Purpose	Provide an element of cultural diversity while engaging children in the exploration of the Buffalo Soldier's lifestyle with examining the compare and contrast of modern conveniences.
Preparation	Have a discussion about American men and women that serve their country in the United States military.  <u>Who they were:</u> Buffalo Soldiers were the African American soldiers who fought for their country and were instrumental in the west and were peacekeepers.  <u>How they got their name:</u> The Buffalo Soldiers got their name from the Native Americans. This was because of the bravery and toughness of the soldiers. Also, the Native American people of the plains associated the Buffalo Soldier's dark eyes and dark curly hair resembles the buffalo and its coat. This name was a honor, since Native Americans greatly respected the buffalo for they were a part of their way of life.

Procedures      **A day at the Buffalo Soldiers Museum**

**Arrival:** Class will be welcomed at the front the museum and led to the Bravery and Honor Room. Where the class will gather in front of the Buffalo. As the Museum Program Assistant will educate the children about the Buffalo Soldiers and how they obtained their name.

15 mins.

**Storylines:** Then using the illustration of Frederic Remington’s “A Pull At The Canteen”, “A Campfire Sketch” and “The Sign Language” the children will be read some lines from the book *Frederic Remington’s Own West* which was written and illustrated by Frederic Remington. Along with open discussion and interpretation of the illustrations associated with the comparisons and the contrasts of modern conveniences today.

**“A Pull At The Canteen”** Children will look at the illustration and how the Buffalo Soldier sitting upon a horse, drinking out of a canteen. They will be presented with issues such as drinking water and how it is collected as well as modes of travel with the Buffalo Soldiers being a horse cavalry.

**“A Campfire Sketch”** Children will explore the issues of preparing meals and how the Buffalo Soldiers must cook their dinner with a focus on hunting and gathering their food and cooking outside on a campfire.

**“The Sign Language”** Children will explore some of the issues the language barriers presented between the Buffalo Soldiers and the indigenous people they encountered and demonstrate simple sign language such as Hello and I see you.

20 mins.

**Associative Play:** Music and stick horses will be provided so the children can gallop around the museum to the song “The Horse.”

10 mins.

**Worksheet Activity:** Buffalo Dot-to-Dot and children may have photos taken, on a saddle, in front of the buffalo.

15 mins.

**Extension** Students will be provided with a Chicken Stew recipe and may take their Buffalo dot2dot home to share them with their families. Recipe is from the February 1995 edition of Cobblestone magazine. Possible home-based learning, Children can help their parents make the chicken stew meal the Buffalo Soldiers ate.

**Suggested Books** *Buffalo Soldiers: Heroes of the American West* by Brynn Baker (A fact finders book)



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