



Ted Alejandre, County Superintendent

San Bernardino County

Superintendent of Schools

*Transforming lives through education*

**Wednesday, May 20**

1:00pm

**Native America, Part 2: “Cities of the Sky” – 4<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

NATIVE AMERICA is a four-part PBS series that challenges everything we thought we knew about the Americas before and since contact with Europe. It travels through 15,000-years to showcase massive cities, unique systems of science, art, and writing, and 100 million people connected by social networks and spiritual beliefs spanning two continents. The series reveals some of the most advanced cultures in human history and the Native American people who created it and whose legacy continues, unbroken, to this day. The series explores this extraordinary world through an unprecedented combination of cutting-edge science and traditional indigenous knowledge. It is NATIVE AMERICA as never seen before-featuring sacred rituals filmed for the first time, history changing scientific discoveries, and rarely heard voices from the living legacy of Native American culture. In part 3: Discover the cosmological secrets behind America's ancient cities. Scientists explore some of the world's largest pyramids and 3D-scan a lost city of monumental mounds on the Mississippi River; native elders reveal ancient powers of the sky.

**After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning**

**Question Box 1**

- What is the central idea? How is the central idea developed?
- Cite evidence from the TV Show to support your determination of the central idea.
- Provide an objective summary of the program.
- What cosmological secrets were uncovered in this episode?
- How did these cosmological events impact America's ancient cities?
- Explain the 3-D scan process that was used in the episode.
- Explain the ancient powers of the sky according to the Native elders in the episode.

**Question Box 2**

- What would you like to research for extra credit? Why?
- Now that it's over, what are my first thoughts about this program? What stood out to you? Explain?
- Why would Native American's be tracking Venus?
- As you watched the segment about the pyramids, what were your thoughts? Does the size of the monuments impress you? Why or why not?
- How do you feel about powers of sky or other powers of nature?

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### **Box 3 (Tasks)**

- Sketch a pyramid from the show. Write details around it that you learned and share it with a family member or friend.
- Research the Choctaw mound builders. What role do the mounds play in Choctaw lore?

### **Box 4 (Enrichment)**

- Go to <http://www.pbs.org/native-america/extras/interactive-map/> to explore more about Native America through geography, storytelling and artifacts. Share your new knowledge with your family or friends.

### **Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)**

- **Social-Emotional Connection: Mindfulness Safari**  
The Safari exercise is a great way to learn mindfulness and connect with nature. This activity turns an average, everyday walk into an exciting new adventure. Your goal on your walk is to notice as many birds, bugs, creepy-crawlies, and any other animals as you can. Look for anything that walks, crawls, swims, or flies. You will need to be in touch with all your senses to do this.