



Ted Alejandre, County Superintendent

San Bernardino County

Superintendent of Schools

*Transforming lives through education*

**Thursday, May 21**  
**1:00pm**

**Native America “Part 4: New World Rising”**  
**4th through 8th grades**

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 4: Discover how resistance, survival and revival are revealed through an empire of horse-mounted Comanche warriors, secret messages encoded in Aztec manuscript and a grass bridge in the Andes that spans mountains and centuries of time.

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

### **Question Box 1**

- What is ground zero for the European invasion?
- Why was the site for the Catholic church chosen? What was used to build it?
- What was the goal of the Spanish conquerors?
- How did the Aztecs show a sign of resistance?
- What is a physical anthropologist?
- What is mound 72? Who was buried there and why?
- Describe Cahokia’s blueprint?
- What is Woodhenge, what is its purpose and how does it work?
- Why are women connected to the moon in Native American culture?

### **Question Box 2**

- Why do you think Native Americans feel a connection to nature?
- Why do Comanche “ride with pride” in the parade?
- What did you find most interesting and why?

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

- Make a list of the ways Native Americans show evidence of their connection to nature.
- Provide justification for this evidence showing a sign of respect.

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

- Activity 1:
  - Think about the real story of totem poles and the great redwoods they are constructed from.
  - Construct your own totem pole telling the story of you (use things from around your house)
  - Tell your story, using your totem to others.
- Activity 2:
  - Think about the purpose of a longhouse.
  - Draw a diagram of a longhouse using a scale to show accurate dimensions of various rooms.
  - Label and tell the purpose of each room.

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

- (SEL Connection): Nature Artwork  
There are many things in nature that you can turn into a mindful piece of art. Go on a walk and look for things you can create an art project out of. Be as creative as you want to! Some things you can look for can include:
  - shells, stones, seeds, branches, leaves, feathers, flowers, sand, etc.