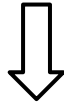


Essential Question

Why is it important to learn what happened to all of the buffalo?



Background Knowledge

Also called bison, buffalo lived for thousands and thousands of years along the eastern plains that became Colorado. They moved in giant herds across the grass-covered plains of North America. Some historians estimate there were once as many as 50 million buffalo roaming the Great Plains. Native American tribes like the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa, and Ute all relied on buffalo for their survival.



Source 1

1907 postcard photograph of buffalo titled "Adam and Eve of America"

Source 2

Kiowa Indian, Old Lady Horse, talking about the buffalo, around 1900. And N. Scott Momaday talking about the importance of buffalo to the Kiowas

Strategy Instructions:

Contextualization
Literacy
Summarization
Zoom-In

Source 3

On the Trail - Buffalo hunt

Source 4

Painting of buffalo herds from the Museum of Western American Art



Source 1: Who were Adam and Eve?

Source 2: In what different ways did the Kiowa use the buffalo?

Source 3: What could have happened to create this giant pile of buffalo skulls?

Source 4: Why might an artist like this want to paint so many buffalo when they were in fact dying in such huge numbers that they nearly disappeared?

Discussion



Assessment

What happened to all of the buffalo?

How and why were the buffalo so important to Indians?

Who hunted the buffalo and why were they hunted to such a degree?

How did the Euro Americans and Native Americans contribute either together or separately to hunt buffalo?