

Coming to Bosque Redondo Memorial/Fort Sumner Historic Site

By Rhonda Gutierrez

Essential Questions:

1. What do I need to know to get the most out of my visit?
2. The history is difficult, so what can I know that will help me to digest the information?
3. What lessons can I take from my visit?

Objectives: Students will be able to...

1. Demonstrate appropriate museum manners
2. Define Memorial and why we have memorials
3. Describe briefly the relevant history of BRM and why it is important.
4. Analyze the lessons of the memorial and how it affects them individually.

Teacher, this lesson is about preparing students to come to the memorial and help you and the students get the most of the experience. If you haven't studied the history with your students, you may go to School Resources page on our site and find various lesson plans to use with your students.

Step 1 – Where are we going?

As a very brief introduction, show the power point that goes along with this lesson. It is a very brief history along with a few sites that they will see.

Step 2 – Manners!

To start this step of the lesson, let's start with how to behave at a museum. This is good for any type of museum. PBS has done a Museum Rules video for students to be found at <https://nm.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/9b37e249-9385-4035-995e-928288c11192/museum-rules/> or Museum Manners by Milwaukee Art Museum at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jn7K4_HFTXo Both of these short videos are worth seeing for students.

To demonstrate why museums want people to stay arm lengths away and protect artifacts uses a transparency page or transparency tape works as well. Have the students pass the film around or take a piece of tape and then examine the fingerprints that are left on the film or tape. Ask what the problem with touching.

Discussion questions for manners: What rules do museums have for how we behave when viewing exhibits? Why do museums have these rules in place?

Step 3 – What is a memorial? What is the point of memorializing tragedy?

Ask students what they think is a difference between a museum and a memorial. The point of a memorial is to create a space for the purpose of remembering and is often the sites of tragedy such as Bosque Redondo Memorial. Museums are often depositories of relics from the past. Lead the students in a

Materials

Internet connection and ability to show power point/videos,
Transparency film
Worksheet Memorializing Tragedy
Ability to show You Tube videos
And play power point presentation

Vocabulary

Memorial
Museum

Grades

All grades with modifications for younger students.

Timeframe

One class period prior to visiting the memorial

discussion of what the purpose of museums and memorials are such as preserving history vs remembering a tragedy to either honor those who died, to prevent the tragedy from occurring in the future or to pay respect for the suffering.

Tell the students that they are going to watch a short video about our memorial site and they are to complete the Memorializing Tragedy form as they watch. As the teacher you can chose the activity to be a discussion as a group or have the students do the work individually and then share with the class. The point is to help students understand that as a memorial, our site is a place of suffering and the point is remember those who suffered and died here and to honor the strength of those who survived.

The video is at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1rldnzt_Wg

This video is about 5 minutes and describes the basics of the site. As the students watch the video have them complete the worksheet. It is an interview with our site manager about what happened to the Navajo and Mescalero Apache in the 1860's.

Memorializing Tragedy at Bosque Redondo Memorial

As you watch the video, consider:

1. Who the victims/survivors are
2. The loss each experienced (what bad things happened during the video)
3. The impact of the loss described above (How did the bad things affect the people)
4. How the individuals cope and negotiate their lives post-earthquake (think about such facets as friends, family, love, counseling, work, hope and visiting the site)

1. Victim/ Survivor	2. Loss Experienced	3. Impact	4. Coping

Briefly write how this story of what happened to the Mescalero Apache and the Navajo affect you.