Explore and Discover



BUCKSKIN

Description: Buckskin is a soft, durable leather made from the hide of deer. It's widely used in making clothing and footwear, including moccasins, because of its flexibility and strength.

Question: How do you think the use of buckskin contributed to the functionality of moccasins in dance ceremonies?

TURTLE SHELL RATTLE

Description: Turtle shell rattles make a unique sound when shaken. Though they're silent as you look at them now, imagine the rhythm they could create during a dance.

Question: Why do you think the turtle shell was chosen as a material for making rattles?

KACHINA DOLLS

Description: A Kachina is a special spirit in Native American beliefs. They're like magical helpers who teach important lessons about nature and life. People in tribes like the Hopi and Zuni celebrate Kachinas with colorful dances and rituals.

Question: If you could create your own Kachina, what animal or natural element would it represent, and why?

Other Terminology

DRUM

Description: The drum is a central element in many dances, providing the heartbeat and rhythm that guides the dancers' movements.

BOLO TIE

Description: The bolo tie, a type of necktie, is made using a piece of cord or leather with decorative metal tips and secured with a clasp or slide. While not a traditional necklace, it holds significant cultural value and is often seen in formal attire among Native Americans.

HEADRESS

Description: A headdress is a significant piece of regalia that holds deep meaning within Native American culture. Made from various materials, including feathers, each element of a headdress has a specific symbolic significance and is worn during important ceremonies and dances.

ERMINE

Description: Ermine, a type of weasel with a white winter coat, is prized for its fur and often used in ceremonial clothing for its beauty and symbolism of purity. Ermine tails can be found adorning headdresses and other regalia, representing honor and accomplishment."

RIBBON SHIRT

Description: Ribbon Shirts, traditionally worn by men in various Native American tribes, is recognized for its vibrant colors and the decorative ribbons that symbolize connections to the spiritual world. It's a common garment in powwows and ceremonial dances.

EAGLE

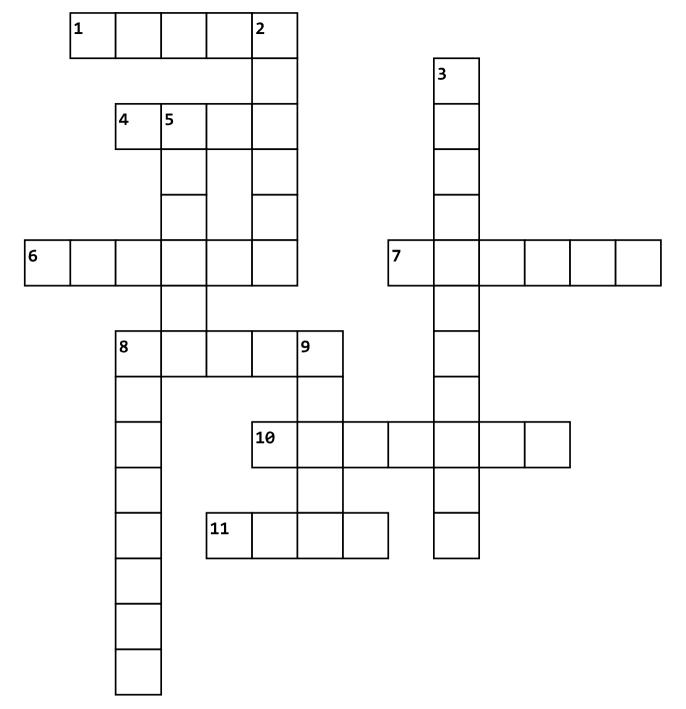
Description: The eagle holds a place of honor and sacred significance in many Native American cultures, revered for its strength, courage, and freedom. Feathers from eagles are highly valued and used in various ceremonial objects and regalia.

POWWOW

Description: A powwow is a social gathering held by many different Native American communities, a celebration of Indigenous songs, dance, fellowship, and heritage. It's an event where people of all ages come together to participate in traditional dances and share in the cultural traditions passed down through generations. Powwows serve as a vibrant expression of community and identity, and they play a crucial role in preserving the rich cultural heritage of Native American peoples.

BEADS

Description: Beadwork is a highly developed art form among Native American tribes, with beads crafted from a variety of materials such as bone, shell, glass, and stone. Intricate patterns and vibrant colors are woven into garments, jewelry, and ceremonial items, each bead meticulously placed to tell a story or signify cultural symbols.



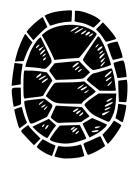
Across

- **1.** This bird, a symbol of honor, might be seen on a headdress. Look closely!
- **4.** This instrument's beat is fundamental to guiding the rhythm of dancers.
- **6.** This creature's shell is used in making an instrument.
- **7.** An important social gathering for Native Americans.
- **8.** These are intricately threaded together to form patterns on the artifacts you see.
- **10.** These figures embody the essence of the dance and can represent various elements of life in doll form.
- **11.** This isn't just any tie; it's a beautifully crafted piece often seen in ceremonial attire.

Down

- **2.** Don't just look at the headdress for feathers; look for this white fur from a weasel in winter.
- **3.** This decorative and colorful shirt is a part of traditional regalia; what is its unique name?
- **5.** A staple in Native ceremonies, I can be made of different materials such as gourd or turtle shell. What am I?
- **8.** Find me with the moccasins; I'm the skin often used for making them.
- **9.** Look at the dancers' attire; I'm the type of garment that wraps around.

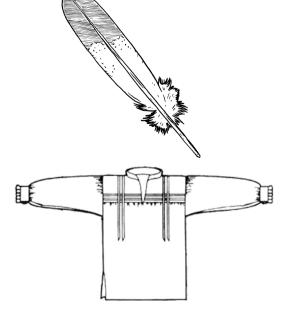
Artifact Match Up











Worn to symbolize strength and freedom, this part of an eagle is used in many ceremonial pieces.

Crafted with care, these small, colorful pieces are used to create intricate patterns on clothing and jewelry.

A garment known for its vibrant colors and the decorative strips that symbolize connections to the spiritual world.

Not just a part of winter wear, this fur is used in regalia to denote honor and is often seen adorning headdresses.

Crafted from the shell of a creature known for its slow pace on land but swift movement in water, this instrument produces a distinct sound essential to many dances.

A fundamental instrument in dance ceremonies, its rhythm is considered the heartbeat of the event.