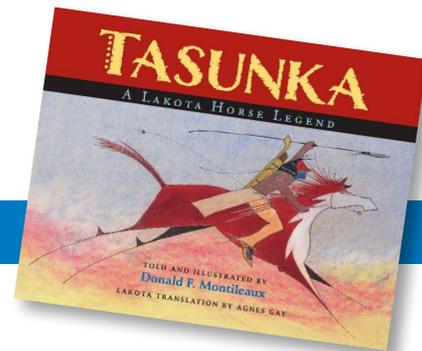


Tasunka

A LAKOTA HORSE LEGEND



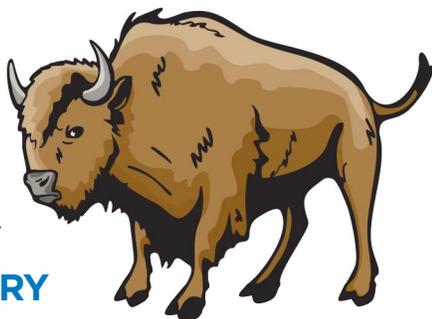
RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

STEAM-THEMES: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH

SCIENCE, ART, TECHNOLOGY TRIP TO THE GRASSLANDS

Put students in teams to research the grasslands biome. Each member of the team will become an expert on a particular aspect of the biome. Have each team decide how to present the information they gather.

- ◆ **Botanist:** expert in the plant life of the area.
- ◆ **Zoologist:** expert in the animal life of the area.
- ◆ **Meteorologist:** weather expert.
- ◆ **Geographer:** map and area expert.



TECHNOLOGY BUFFALO STORY

Have students watch this video to hear Lakota women talk about the importance of the buffalo: www.youtube.com/watch?v=bv1_Yf6vAsc. Have students write a paragraph about why this animal is so important to the Lakota. How did the story of Tasunka convey the importance of this animal?

ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY DOG AND PONY SHOW

Think of a vehicle typically pulled by horses (carriage, wagon, etc.). Now think of a vehicle typically pulled by dogs (small carts or sleds). Draw pictures or make a chart or Venn diagram to compare the two vehicles. How big is each? How many animals is needed to pull each? About how much weight can each carry? Based on your comparison, which kind of animal do you think is more useful for transportation?

ART LEDGER ART

Materials: used paper, crayons, pencils

Ledger art got its name from American Indians using paper from ledger books to make their drawings. Many were fine artists and used their talent to show traditions and their meanings through pictures and symbols. What kinds of paper can students upcycle and use for art? Have students use pictures and symbols to tell a story about one of their favorite traditions.

MATH GEOMETRY HUNTING

Have students look through the text and make a list of the different geometric shapes in the illustrations. Expand the activity by having students research Lakota symbols. What is the role of geometric shapes and patterns within these symbols? Have students write about which geometric shapes seem to be the most popular and why.

WRITING STORY STARTERS

- ◆ One day I was out hunting when I saw...
- ◆ I woke up one morning to find a blue horse...
- ◆ One morning all the horses disappeared...
- ◆ My journey began by...



Reading Is
Fundamental