

Building Cultural Connections Past to Present, Piece to Peace

Art and Pen Partners between New Jersey and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Montana

3rd grade students from New Jersey and the Northern Cheyenne School in Montana created collaborative works of art and writing that communicated their past and present cultures. The finished individual and community pieces exhibited in the traveling Peace By Piece exhibition and at each respective school. The purpose was to develop awareness of the similarities and the differences between the diverse immigrant population of students from New Jersey and the more homogeneous population of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. At the core of the project was the belief that learning about others, past and present, and sharing this information, will promote environments of appreciation, understanding and peace. The classroom experience was expanded through firsthand communication with Native American Indians today by linking two facets of the 3rd grade curriculum: A unit on studying about Cheyenne Indians and a unit on researching family cultural history.



A Few Statistics & Facts

Awarded a grant from Susan K. Black Foundation

100+ artwork created

200 students participated in NJ and MT

Finished collaborative pieces hang in both schools