

## **Paths of Life: Western Apache Discussion Questions**

### **Intro to the Apache**

What are tribal bands?

How many bands of Western Apache are there?

Where do the Western Apache live?

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What environment do the Western Apache live in?

### **Mountain Spirits Story**

What is the role of mountain spirits?

What are some of the messages of the Mountain Spirits story?

How can you relate the teachings of this story to your own life?

### **Resources of the Apache**

In the 1860s, what were some of the ways the Apache used to gather resources?

What kind of resources did the Apache gather?

What kind of animals do the Apache hunt? Many of the Apache still hunt these animals today.

During what seasons did the Apache plant and harvest crops?

What season are there more resources available to be gathered?

What has Raiding been replaced with in modern times?

Which of the traditional Apache foods have you eaten?

### **Apache Farming Practices**

What foods do the Apache grow?

What tools do the Apache use for farming?

What are the characteristics that make a good digging stick?

What color is the corn you get at the store?

What colors are the corn grown by the Apache?

What is the name of the tool the Apache uses like a backpack to carry the corn and what is it made from?

How does this tool differ from your own backpack?

What tools do the Apache use to process their corn?

What do they make out of the dried corn?

What do you eat that is made from ground corn?

### **Apache Agave Cultivation**

What parts of the agave plant are gathered and what are they used for?

What items did the Apache make from the agave stalk?

What did the Apache use to make their baskets waterproof?

### **Tools the Apache Use**

What seeds and nuts do the Apache gather?

What are some of the tools the Apache created from natural resources?

What do the Apache traditionally use to hold their babies? What does it remind you of that many mothers today use to carry their babies?

### **Apache Hunting Methods**

Who traditionally made clothing and what materials did they use?

In the past, where did the Apache get the beads they used to decorate their clothes and tools?

What materials were used to make the bows and arrows?

What is the name of the case used to carry arrows?

### **Formation of Reservations**

When were the Apache Wars and who were they between?

What was the cause of the friction between the American settlers and the Apache?

When did the Apache Wars start and when did they end?

While being forced to live at the San Carlos Agency, how were Apache identified?

How did living at the San Carlos Agency change their lives?

While living on the San Carlos Agency, how did the Apache creatively use resources to mimic their traditional tools?

In 1885, which Chiricahua Apache leader led a band of Apache off the Agency?

Who helped the federal agents to track down Geronimo and his band, and what were they called?

What hard decisions did these men have to make and, ultimately, what happened to them?

in 1886, what happened to Geronimo and the nearly 500 Apache who were with him?

### **The Apache Today**

When were the Apache allowed to leave the San Carlos Agency and go to newly established reservation lands?

What are the names of the three reservations?

What are some business enterprises that were established at the Ft. Apache reservation?

What industries is the San Carlos Reservation known for?

What mountains are sacred to the Apache and which one is home to the mountain spirits?

How does mining development threaten Apache sacred lands and ceremonies?

What have some Apache done to fight for these lands and their ability to practice their cultural traditions?