# Maidu Museum & Historic Site

1970 Johnson Ranch Drive
Roseville, CA 95661
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www.roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum
www.facebook.com/indianmuseum

## Suggested Classroom Activities

**Start a KWL Chart:** Make a chart with three sections, labeled *Know*, *Want to Know*, *Learned*. Have the students brainstorm and discuss items for the first two sections.

**Use Enclosed Vocabulary Words:** They can be used for spelling or in any language arts lessons.

**Post Test Evaluation:** Deliver and discuss the Post Test after your outreach program.

**Write a Story:** Have your students write a story of a day in the life of a California Native boy or girl.

**Research Plants/Animals:** Have students research a plant and/or animal that the California Natives used for food or medicine.

## Suggested Reading

**For Students:**

A Day With Tupi, an Indian Boy of Yosemite. Fran Hubbard. Awani Press, Fredericksburg. 1978.

Back in the Beforetime ~ Tales of the California Indians. Jane Louise Curry. Margaret McElderberry Books, New York. 1987.

Indian Summer ~ Traditional Life Among the Choinumne Indians of California's San Joaquin Valley. Thomas Jefferson Mayfield. Heyday Books, Berkeley. 1993.

Ishi, The Last of His Tribe. Theodora Kroeber. Bantam Books, New York. 1964.

Ishi's Journey from the Center to the Edge of the World. James Freeman. Naturgraph, Happy Camp. 1992.

Ishi's Tale of Lizard. Leanne Hinton. Farrar, Straus, Giroux, New York. 1992.

Nesuya's Basket. Carol Purdy. Rinehart Publishers, Boulder. 1997
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Ooti ~ A Child of the Nisenan. American River Natural History Association, Carmichael. 1996.

Pasquala ~ The Story of a California Indian Girl. Gail Faber & Michele Lasagna. Magpie Publications, Alamo. 1990.

Yamino Kwiti ~ A Story of Indian Life in the L.A. Area. Donna Preble. Heyday Books, Berkeley. 1983.

**For Teachers:**

Indians Life of Yosemite Region. Samuel Barrett & Edward Gifford. Yosemite Association, Yosemite National Park.1933.

Ishi in Two Worlds: A Biography of the Last Wild Indian in North America. Theodora Kroeber. University of California Press, Berkeley. 1973.

Ishi's Brain. Orin Starn. W.W. Norton & Co., New York. 2004.

The Heart is Fire ~ The World of the Cahuilla Indians of Southern California. Deborah Dozier. Heyday Books, Berkeley. 1998.

The Natural World of the California Indians. Robert Heizer & Albert Elsasser. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles. 1980.

The Way We Lived ~ California Indian Stories, Songs, & Reminiscences. Ed. Malcolm Margolin. Heyday Books, Berkeley. 1981.

To the American Indian ~ Reminiscences of a Yurok Woman. Lucy Thompson. Heyday Books, Berkeley. 1916/1991.

# California Indian Life and Culture
# Vocabulary Words

**Burden Basket –**
large woven container carried on the back; used for transporting acorns and a wide variety of other items

**Chia Seeds -**
nutritious, tiny black and white seeds used for food and beverage-making

**Clapper Stick –**
an instrument, often made of elderberry wood, used to provide rhythm

**Deertoe Rattle –**
ceremonial instrument made from the bone, hide, and hooves of a deer

**Dentalium –**
long, tooth-like shells used for money by people on the northwest coast of California

**Gourd Rattle –**
a musical instrument made by filling a dried gourd with beans, stones, or other materials

**Mortar –**
bowl-shaped rock for grinding acorns, nuts & seeds; used with a pestle

**Obsidian –**
shiny, black volcanic glass used to make arrowheads and other tools

**Pestle –**
hand-held stone used to grind acorns or other foods in the mortar

**Regalia –**
special clothing used in ceremonies

**Soaproot –**
plant used for making brushes, glue, and suds for washing; also used for treating specific ailments

**Tule –**
reed-like plant found in or near water; used for making houses, boats, and many other items

**Yucca –**
a desert-dwelling plant with strong fibers used to make sandals and other items

# California Indian Life and Culture
# Post- Presentation Test

1. _____ _____ were often used as diapers because they were soft and easily washed.

2. In hunting, the _____ was used to make a spear go farther and faster.

3. The Cahuilla people of the desert call their dome-shaped, thatched house a _____.

4. Two musical instruments used by the Indians of California were the _____ and the _____.

5. The peoples of the Sacramento and Central Valleys used _____to make houses, boats, rope, mats, clothing, and toys.

6. Most California Native people did not used pots to cook in; instead they used _____.

7. _____was used to make plank- houses and dugout canoes by the Indians of the Northwest Coast.

8. The main plant food of the Maidu and other peoples in many parts of California was the _____.

9. People who lived on the coast in the North used _____shells for money (a long-thin striated shell).

10. The shiny, hard, volcanic glass used to make arrowheads is called _____.

11. Symbols carved into rocks are called _____ .

12. A bone tool, like that taken from the backbone of a deer, was used to pry _____ off rocks in the ocean.

# California Indian Life and Culture
# Answer Key

1. rabbit skins
2. atlatl
3. kish (pronounced keesh)
4. clapstick or clapperstick & gourd rattles, (drum – limited use/ North only)
5. tule
6. baskets
7. redwood
8. acorn
9. dentalium
10. obsidian
11. petroglyphs
12. abalone