

Carbon County Museum: Bison Tales

Exploring the Natural History of Wyoming through its Animals

Lesson Objectives:

- Listening and understanding the differences between animals.
- Gaining a basic understanding how important Wyoming's animal population is important to nature and the people, specifically our bison.
- Teaching to multiple intelligences by involving music, reading, interactive play including individual artwork.

Age Group: Pre-K/Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

Timeline: 30 – 60 minutes

- **Reading** students Buffalo stories interactively: reading, pausing, asking questions to ensure they are actively engaging with the story. Recommended: *There's a Bison Bouncing on the Bed* (3 – 7 years); *Buddy Bison's Yellowstone Adventure* (4 – 8 years).
- **Watching and Listening:** Show students the "Buffalo Song!" music video by Hamilton Animation on YouTube; clapping and singing to enhance their knowledge in a fun and memorable way. Identify the animals, bison, prairie dogs, etc. [Need access to YouTube]
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xgw22DKrAnw>
- **Coloring pages**, including the WY State Flag.
<https://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/wyoming-coloring-page/>
- <http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/mammals/american-bison>
- https://www.momjunction.com/articles/buffalo-coloring-pages_00358026/
- **Make It:** Students create their own paper bag bison puppets using the template provided.

Subjects Included in Lesson:

- English Language Arts
- Visual Arts

Wyoming DOE Learning Content Standards (2018) Included in this Lesson:
English Language Arts; Reading for Literature:

- RL.K.1 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- RL.K.3 With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.
- RL.K.10 Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
- RI.K.5 Identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book.

English Language Arts; Speaking and Listening:

- SL.K.2 Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions.
- SL.K.3 Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood.
- SL.K.5 Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.
- SL.K. 6 Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and other ideas clearly.

Fine and Performing Arts; Visual Arts:

- FPA4.1A.1 Students create and revise original art to express ideas, experiences, and stories.
- FPA4.1. A.2 Students investigate and apply a variety of materials, resources, technologies and processes to communicate experiences and idea through art.
- FPA4.1. A.3 Students apply the elements and principles of design to their artwork.
- FPA4.1. A.4 Students collaborate with others in creative artistic solutions.
- FPA.4.1. A.5 Students use art materials in a safe and responsible manner.

Directions: Bison Paper Bag Puppet

Materials Needed: Lunch-sized paper bag, crayons or markers, glue, scissors, printed template (we provide the template below). Use the photograph as your guide.

1. Print out template and have child color in the various parts such as the horns, mouth, etc.
2. Once colored in, assist the child (if necessary) with cutting out the parts of the puppet including the mouth, horns, eyes.
3. Using glue, add the Bison parts to the paper bag, flap side at the top (see photograph).
4. Enjoy and have fun with your puppet!

