

Why Buzzard Is a Loner

Life Skills:

- Effective Communication
- Responsible Citizenship

Curriculum Tie:

- **Health Education**
3rd Grade
[Standard 1](#)
[Objective 2](#)
- **Health Education**
3rd Grade
[Standard 4](#)
[Objective 3](#)
- **Health Education**
3rd Grade
[Standard 6](#)
[Objective 1](#)
- **Health Education**
4th Grade
[Standard 1](#)
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[Standard 1](#)
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4th Grade
[Standard 6](#)
[Objective 2](#)
- **Health Education**
5th Grade
[Standard 1](#)
[Objective 1](#)
- **Health Education**
5th Grade
[Standard 6](#)
[Objective 1](#)
- **Health Education**
6th Grade
[Standard 1](#)
[Objective 2](#)

Summary:

Students will read and discuss the Uintah/Ouray Ute tale of "Why the Buzzard Is a Loner."

Main Curriculum Tie:

Health Education - 3rd Grade

[Standard 1 Objective 1](#)

Demonstrate **responsibility for self and actions**.

Materials:

Booklet can be printed from the CD or ordered from the San Juan School District-Media Center at (435)678-1229 or <http://www.sanjuanschools.org/media>.

Background For Teachers:

This is not a seasonal story, which means the story can be told anytime during the year. For more information about the Uintah/Ouray Ute Nation, see <http://www.utetribes.com>.

Student Prior Knowledge:

Students will need to know the feeding habits of buzzards as scavengers who eat carcasses.

Students need to understand that part of a healthy lifestyle includes relationships with friends and associates.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

Student will be selective about nutritional choices and hygienic habits.

Student will be familiar with the importance of relationships.

Instructional Procedures:

- Preview the vocabulary: (1) perch; (2) spiraling; (3) wobbled and bobbed; (4) frantically; (5) burst.
- Glossary: Mahmahkuraheh-the Ute word for magpie.
- Distribute and read storybook as an individual, pair, small or whole group. AND/OR
- Arrange for a health practitioner, school counselor or the school nurse to read the story while students follow along, then do a presentation about healthy teeth maintenance (i.e., brushing, flossing, rinsing, etc.) and interpersonal relationships, making sure to emphasize the connections between health and happiness.

Strategies For Diverse Learners:

Students can read in pairs or small groups or can listen to an audio

Health Education

6th Grade

[Standard 3](#)

[Objective 1](#)

- **Health Education**

6th Grade

[Standard 6](#)

[Objective 4](#)

Time Frame:

1 class period that runs 45 minutes.

Group Size:

Small Groups

CD.

Extensions:

LANGUAGE ARTS:

Students could retell the story through a puppet show.

SCIENCE:

Have students identify the hummingbird, magpie, bluebird, and buzzard by finding pictures using the encyclopedia, the Internet, or bird books.

Assessment Plan:

Students in groups of four will discuss and identify the lesson/moral of the story and present their conclusion to the whole group.

Bibliography:

Audio recording as retold by Tribal Cultural Consultant, Gloria Thompson

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