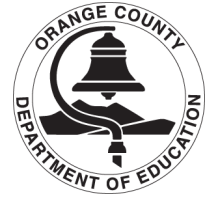




Building a Kish Family Activity



SYNOPSIS

Many of the native plants found in Orange County were used by the Tongva (also called Gabrieliños). They built their dome shaped homes, called kish or kiitcha, with willows for the frame, and bulrush (also called tule) layered on the outside. You can find these plants growing near wetland areas throughout California. Using the natural resources at your home, can you build a model kish?

MATERIALS

- Picture of Tongva Village (page 2)
- Crayons or color pencils
- base for model (cardboard or wood)
- repurposed items for the model (i.e. boxes, bags, straws, plastic, popsicle sticks)
- items from your yard (i.e. sticks, twigs, leaves)
- craft supplies (i.e. yarn, string, wooden sticks, glue, clay)
- other items in the house (i.e. spaghetti, pasta, skewers, toothpicks)

PROCEDURE

1. Color the picture of the Tongva Village (if you haven't done so in class).
2. Brainstorm some ideas on how you would make your own kish.
3. What natural resources would you use to build your kish?
4. Build your model kish.
5. Take a picture and share with Inside the Outdoors on social media!

FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

- What items did you use that were similar to the Native Americans?
- What items did you use that were different?
- Would your kish survive in the rain?
- Would your kish survive in the wind?

