

Sacajawea : The Greatest Translator

Sarah Gyi and Evie Dorman  
Junior Division  
Group Documentary  
Process paper: 332

### **How we chose our topic and how it relates to the theme**

We chose our topic when we visited the Lewis and Clark Visitor Center in our town. We both became very interested in the expedition and its lasting effect on the United States. After researching our topic more, we both realized Sacajawea's importance in the expedition related to the theme more than Lewis and Clark's contribution. Without her communicating with the Native Americans, understanding of the land, and knowledge of survival, the whole expedition would have failed.

### **How we conducted our research**

First we began to research the topic to get a better understanding of the expedition. We looked up several websites to gain background on our topic. We then interviewed Doug Friedli and visited the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center in town. Finally, we read the Lewis and Clark's journals to find details and dates of the expedition.

### **How we created our project**

We created our project by listing what we felt we needed to have in our video. Then we added how long each slide should be and of what it should consist. From there, we continued to estimate the time to fit within the 10 minute limit and then came up with the final plan for the video.

### **Our historical argument**

Sacajawea was the key to the Corps of Discovery's success. In several instances, Sacajawea's skills proved very useful. Her knowledge of the land, wildlife, and food helped the expedition in many ways. She spoke several Native American languages, including Shoshone. Although her work greatly helped the Corps of Discovery, she didn't get recognized for her service until very recently.

### **How our topic was significant in history**

Sacajawea's communications with the Native Americans helped Lewis and Clark have peaceful relations with them and allowed them to gain their trust. She Lewis and Clark find their way through the harsh terrain. With her help, they were able to create maps that would be used for years to come. She was an essential part of the expansion of the United States.

## Works Cited

*Big Sky*. Composed by Hans Zimmer, *iMovie* file. This is background music in our video

DeVoto, Bernard. *The Journals of Lewis and Clark*. 11th ed., Houghton Mifflin Company, 1953.

This book showed us the effects of the expedited and how it came about. The journals where combined so that it was day by day.

Friedli, Doug. Interview. Conducted by Sarah Gygi and Evie Dorman, 9 Sept. 2020. We interviewed Doug Friedli at the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center.

Graphic of the Louisiana Purchase. *Mistakes Were Made*,

[www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fmwmblog.com%2F2018%2F12%2F23%2Flouisiana-purchase%2F&psig=AOvVaw14Ux3rue8AI27z7vE0cSNJ&ust=1610997264281000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=2ahUKEwi6m9LO1qPuAhVX96wKHW02A68Qr4kDegUIARDUAQ](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fmwmblog.com%2F2018%2F12%2F23%2Flouisiana-purchase%2F&psig=AOvVaw14Ux3rue8AI27z7vE0cSNJ&ust=1610997264281000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=2ahUKEwi6m9LO1qPuAhVX96wKHW02A68Qr4kDegUIARDUAQ). Accessed 17 Jan. 2021. Graphic of the Louisiana Purchase.

"Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition." *Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition*, [lewisandclarkjournals.unl.edu/](http://lewisandclarkjournals.unl.edu/). Accessed 10 Sept. 2020. This site had several journals and works of people on the expedition. It also has pictures off wildlife and Native Americans who Lewis and Clark would have met.

"Lewis and Clark Expedition." *HISTORY*, A&E Television Networks, 9 Nov. 2009, [www.history.com/topics/westward-expansion/lewis-and-clark](http://www.history.com/topics/westward-expansion/lewis-and-clark). Accessed 3 Sept. 2020.

We used this site to gain a summary of what happened in our event.

Lewis, Clark, and Sacajawea Looking at Waterfall. *Sacajawea*, [sacajawea-biography.org](http://sacajawea-biography.org).

Accessed 14 Jan. 2021. This is a picture we will use in our video, we also used several pictures from this site.

*Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Visitor Center*. 2020,

[lewisandclarkvisitorcenter.org/exhibits/](http://lewisandclarkvisitorcenter.org/exhibits/). Accessed 1 Sept. 2020. This was the Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Visitor Center website. We used this to plan where we wanted to film and contact a historian. We also used this to find information about our topic. We also took several pictures of the museum's art, exhibits, and displays.

Picture of Thomas Jefferson. 2021. *Braille Institute*, Braille Institute of America,

[Brailleinstitute.org](http://Brailleinstitute.org). Accessed 17 Jan. 2021. Picture of Thomas Jefferson that is used in our documentary

"Rivers, Edens, Empires: Lewis & Clark and the Revealing of America." *Library of Congress*, [www.loc.gov/exhibits/lewisandclark/transcript57.html](http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/lewisandclark/transcript57.html). Accessed 4 Sept. 2020. This letter was given to Lewis, telling him what was to be accomplished on the expedition. We used this site to understand how this event came about.

"Sacagawea." *HISTORY*, edited by Amanda Onion et al., A&E Television Networks, 15 Apr. 2010, [www.history.com/topics/native-american-history/sacagawea](http://www.history.com/topics/native-american-history/sacagawea). Accessed 14 Oct. 2020. This website was used to find more information about Sacagawea and her life.

"Sacagawea Biography." *The Biography.com*, A&E Television Networks, 28 Feb. 2018, [www.biography.com/explorer/sacagawea](http://www.biography.com/explorer/sacagawea). Accessed 13 Oct. 2020. We used this source for background information about Sacagawea. It told about her life and what she did on and after the expedition.

*Sacajawea Statue in Bismarck*. *Sacajawea*,

[www.nps.gov/knri/learn/historyculture/sacagawea.htm](http://www.nps.gov/knri/learn/historyculture/sacagawea.htm). Accessed 14 Jan. 2021. Statue of her in Bismarck North Dakota, will be used in video

Soderberg, Heather. *Sacajawea*. 13 Feb. 2013. *Columbia River Images*,

[www.columbiariverimages.com/Regions/Places/cascade\\_locks\\_marine\\_park\\_bronze.htm](http://www.columbiariverimages.com/Regions/Places/cascade_locks_marine_park_bronze.htm)

l. Accessed 13 Jan. 2021. This is a statue of Sacajawea that was used in our intro.

Thomas Jefferson Letter to Congress. 18 Jan. 1803. *Library of Congress*, 18 Jan. 1803,

[www.loc.gov/](http://www.loc.gov/). Accessed 13 Jan. 2021. This is a screenshot of Thomas Jefferson's letter to Congress. We got this from the library of Congress.

Townsend, Kristopher. *Jean-Baptiste and Sacagawea*. 2009. *Discovering Lewis and Clark*,

[www.lewis-clark.org/article/2668](http://www.lewis-clark.org/article/2668). Accessed 14 Jan. 2021. Picture of pomp. Will be used in our video