



Totem Pole Project

Date Assigned: 12/05/08

Due Date: 12/12/08

The Pacific Northwest Indians carved totem poles for a variety of reasons. Totem poles meant something different to each family. You have the task of making your own totem pole that represents your family. The totem pole is similar to a coat of arms, or something that represents who people are and what they believe in.

Materials:

- a paper towel tube,
- a printer,
- a piece of paper,
- some crayons,
- scissors,
- glue
- template for totem pole can be found in the following website:
<http://www.papertotempoles.com/pages/spirit/018totem.htm>

Instructions:

- Print out the template of choice. If using the black and white template, try printing it on brown construction paper.
- Color (where appropriate) and cut out the template pieces.
- Glue the large rectangular piece on first to cover the tube.
- Glue the three faces one on top of the other (like in the picture above).
- Glue the wings onto the back of the tube.

Alternative Decorating Idea:

A second option is to replace all or some of the template pieces with totems representing your own family history. These could be photos of family members or "animal spirits" (your teddy bear, pet dog or cat, a favorite zoo or farm animal) cut from photographs, coloring books or magazines.

After you are done with your totem pole, type up a paragraph in which you explain how each template that you have chosen for your totem pole represents your family.