

# Culture

## Mini-Lesson—cut this out and glue to the right hand page of your notebook.

**Culture** is not to be confused with race. Race has more to do with one's genetic background. **Culture** applies more to you as an individual, one's family, one's people. It is more about whom you identify with and things you do. It includes many aspects, even some you may not have thought of as culture. "What are they?", you ask. Well, I am happy to share.

**Culture** distinguishes an individual or group from other people or groups in terms of behavior and beliefs, that is passed from parent to child. It includes unique processes and behaviors. Aspects of culture include language, clothing/apparel, music, art, dance, games/entertainment, law, religion, government, family structure, traditions, and food/cuisine. Think about your own genetic background, think about the different races in your background. Did any of those groups dress a certain way at any time? Did they ascribe to a specific religion? Did they have a certain way that a family is organized, with clear male and female roles? Did they observe specific traditions? The questions go on and on. Just think, somewhere in the answers to those kinds of questions is part of your identity.

Is there a branch of science that studies culture? Absolutely! The branch that studies all the different aspects of culture is called **anthropology**. An **anthropologist** is interested in how people lived. Daily life in the past is what they groove on, and they are really good at it. They can look at a skeleton and tell if the individual was a male or female. They can look at a skeleton's teeth and decide if the individual ate grains or had a mostly meat and vegetable diet. They can study tools, pottery, animal skins, hearths, and jewelry and tell you about the daily life of people long dead. An anthropologist's "bread and butter" is culture.

## Directions to complete left hand notebook page.

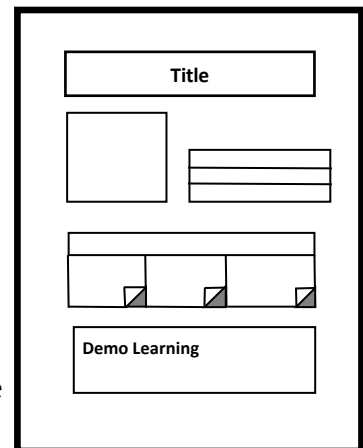
**Step 1**—Color the parts that need it. (Title, pictures, flaps, lined circle, and background of "demonstrate your learning").

**Step 2**—Cut out the title and the circle with lines. Either exactly cut or closely cut around the edges of the pictures and glue them around the circle. Draw arrows from the circle out to each picture. Label the lines with the aspect of culture featured.

**Step 3**—Try to identify the cultures to which the pictures belong. The religions are already identified.

**Step 4**—Define culture on the lines of the circle.

**Step 5**—Do the "Demonstrate your learning" activity.



## Demonstrate your learning.

At the bottom of the left page write a journal entry about an item found at a dig site. Make sure to discuss some conclusions drawn by your anthropologist. Identify where you are in the world. Imagine.