

SHELLING OUT BOOKS

This activity is a follow-up from the content of the Native American section of History and Culture from the Discovery of Estuarine Enviroments (DOEE) web site.

(<http://omp.gso.uri.edu/doee/history/nativeam/nativeam.htm>).

Grades: 3-6

Objective: Students will explore the concept of trade using wampum.

Materials: beads representing wampum
old books
used books
donated books

Procedure:

1. Students will bring in old or used books.
2. Books will be displayed throughout the classroom.
3. Students will be given wampum to use as a purchasing tool for the books.
4. Students will determine a wampum value on each book for trading session (ex. two wampum is equal to a chapter book).
5. Students will peruse the book display and write a wish list.
6. Each student will be assigned a number then all numbers will be drawn randomly.
7. Student will use their wampum to purchase available books.