

Windows into the Past: Crow Canyon Archaeological Center's Guide for Teachers, Elaine Davis & Marjorie R. Connolly, editors, 2000, 124 pp. \$39.90 trade paperback, Kendall Hunt, 0-7872-6748-1, Grades 4-adult

Over the past 20 years, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, located 20 miles northwest of Mesa Verde National Park, has taught over 30,000 participants the joys of digging up the past. "Everybody has a history and everybody's history matters" sums up the viewpoint of this inclusive compilation of teaching units used by the staff of Crow Canyon, now shared with the world. Included in the thirteen chapters written by members of the education staff at Crow Canyon as well as the editors (who are both mainstays of the Crow Canyon school program) are technical details on archaeological techniques, ethics of digging up the past, analyzing artifacts extracted from a simulated excavation, exploring ancient lifestyles through making and using traditional tools and technology (perhaps the most lively sections of the book) as well as exclusive material on Native American games of the Southwest that kids and adults will love. Complete lesson plans used for many years by the staff at this unique center (formed in 1983 by an educator, Dr. Edward Berger) are shared unstintingly along with details of constructing inexpensive authentic replicas in your classroom to teach your students that "archaeology is a window through which we can view the deep past", not an Indiana Jones adventure with artifact pillage as its goal. Experiential and participatory are the two key words. Respect for

ancient and contemporary Puebloan culture is pervasive. Discussion of the ethics and dilemmas of artifact repatriation is very well handled.

Supplemental "electronic field trips" are available on the crowcanyon.org website. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED (there is nothing like it).

©2005 Gwynne Spencer, PO Box 121, Mancos, CO 81328,
gwynnespencer@aol.com, reprint rights available