Primary Source Activity 4

Core Theme: Peopling the New World: Native Americans

Source Analysis Focus: Artifact Analysis

Due: June 25

For this assignment, choose two or three artifacts related to Native American history and develop an activity that gets students to analyze artifacts as primary sources.

Topic: The specific subject of our March Seminar and May fieldtrip is Pre-Historic Native America (Mississippian and Hopewell Cultures, respectively), but the artifacts you choose may relate to Pre-Historic or Historic Native Americans.

Choose objects that relate to topics you are teaching your students. As usual, if you have questions ask Stuart.

Primary Sources: For classroom purposes, images of artifacts will be included in the definition of artifact. Also, quality reproductions count as artifacts (see the OHS store for replicas of the Adena Pipe, Wray Figurine, and effigy pipes, for example). You may find these sources on:

- The Orientation resource CD has items related to teaching with artifacts.
- The Resource CD that contains resources specifically related to the Core Theme of Native American History.
- Quality web resources linked on the resource CDs and the Connecting to the Past website.
- Books containing primary sources you have received.

You may use artifacts from the same Native American culture or different cultures. You may use artifacts from similar time periods or each artifact can come from a very different time.

Primary Source Activity:

1. Provide a method for getting students to look closely at the artifacts and interpret them as primary sources—such as by using an artifact analysis worksheet.
2. Choose the artifacts carefully so that together they can provide insight into Native American culture(s) or show change over time.
3. Indicate on your Activity plan some of the insights you expect students to develop from the analysis.

Format: Use the “Creating Primary Source Activities: Format Instructions” handout as your model for the format.