Peru: Llamas and Panpipes “Siku”

Objectives
Through the Kentucky 4-H International Program participants will:

- Experience different cultures through geography, history, symbols, language, government, economy, agriculture, customs, religion, arts, food, and fun facts.
- Share about their culture while exploring different cultures.
- Process connections between different cultures.
- Generalize interdependencies of different cultures.
- Apply knowledge to work cooperatively with others from different cultures.

Introduction to Content
According to the U.S. Department of Education International Strategy Report (2012-2016), in order for youth to succeed in the 21st century workplace, they must develop knowledge and understanding of other countries, cultures, languages and perspectives. The overall mission of 4-H is to provide opportunities for youth and adults to work together to create sustainable community change. This is accomplished within the use of three primary content areas, or mission mandates, -citizenship, healthy living, and science. The 4-H Citizenship Mandate places emphasis on young people being engaged and active members of their community, country, and world. Citizenship is the foundation needed to help youth gain a broader understanding of life.

Curriculum
4-Hers will increase their global competencies by:

- Identifying their role in the global society,
- Investigating the interdependencies of cultures,
- Appreciating the accomplishments of other cultures,
- Cooperatively work with others from varying cultures.

Materials Needed
- Materials for llama: scissors, marker, two felt sheets (different colors), embroidery floss (one or multiple colors), large eye-needle, crafter fiberfill stuffing, printout of attached template
- Materials for Peruvian panpipes “siku”- scissors, glue, hot glue, tape (clear), 6 large straws (milkshake size), 6-12 inches of ribbon

Learn more at www.kentucky4h.org or contact your county extension office.
**Introduction**

- Does the siku remind you of other woodwind instruments?
  - What about a flute?
  - For the siku or panpipes, pitch is primarily manipulated by differing lengths of each of the pipes.
- What country is known for llamas carrying supplies across the Andes Mountains?
  - Peru!
- Where are llamas from?
  - Llamas are domesticated animals that are native to many South American countries and are a relative of the camel (National Geographic, 2018).
  - Llamas need very little water and are able to eat many different plants, which makes them a great choice for pack animals in the rugged mountainous terrain of the Andes (National Geographic, 2018).
  - The vicuña is the wild (non-domesticated) relative to the llama found in Peru. A vicuña can even be seen on the Peruvian flag (Smith, 2016).

**Background Information**

- **Panpipes**
  - Siku is one name used for panpipes or pan flutes played in Peru!
  - Sizes of panpipes can vary in Andes regions. Many are small yet others are as large as 4 feet long (Kopka, 2011).
- **Llamas**
  - People living in the Andes Mountains have been using llamas as pack animals (animals used to move supplies and equipment) for hundreds of years (National Geographic, 2018).
  - Llamas can carry loads of up to around seventy-five pounds for more than twenty miles each day (National Geographic, 2018).
  - Llamas are important for the people of Peru for more than just transportation of goods. Llama fiber (fur) can be made into wool for fabric, rugs, or ropes. Llama manure can be burned to use as fuel, and llama meat can also be consumed (National Geographic, 2018).
  - Peruvian llamas are sometimes adorned with brightly colored halters or tassels on their ears. Some legends say these tassels were used to ward off evil spirits (Cohen, 1957).
Instructions for “Siku” Panpipe Craft:
1. Using scissors, cut off one inch from the bottom of the first straw by cutting straight across. For the second, cut off two inches, third-three inches, and continue with this pattern until each of the straws are cut. Set aside the pieces that were cut off, you will not need them.
2. In order of largest to smallest, line up the now cut straws, side by side.
3. Place a small piece of clear tape on each end of the cut portion of the straw and check to ensure it is sealed (to prevent air from escaping)
4. Use glue to attach each of these straws to one-another, in the same order. At this point, you should have one end that is flat while the other end decreases in size from largest to smallest straw.
   a. TIP: If using hot glue, be sure the tip of the hot glue gun does not touch the straw, it could melt the plastic.
5. To add a decorative touch, use glue to attach ribbon around the center of your straws.

Instructions for Making a Sound:
1. Hold your siku with the flat and open ends of the straw pointing straight towards you while the cut/sealed ends are pointed away.
2. Bring the open end of the largest straw straight in towards your lip and place the bottom of the straw hole to the bottom line on your bottom lip. Do not remove from this position but continue with the next step.
3. In the same spot on your bottom lip, turn the panpipes down with the closed ends pointing at the floor. The straw is touching your chin with the top of the straw remaining on the bottom line of your bottom lip.
4. With a small opening in the middle of your lips, blow fast air slightly into and across the straw opening. Avoid making a “kiss face” and keep lips flat without tucking your bottom lip into your mouth.
5. Continue making adjustments with your lips and airflow. Try on each of the straws and listen for changes in pitch. With each of the straws, you should hear a different pitch.
6. Step by step instructions: https://youtu.be/iQtYf-WZSZo

Instructions for Felt Lama:
1. Using scissors, cut out template for the llama’s body. Trace two on one felt sheet and cut out both. Only trace the outline of the llama’s body. Details will be made with embroidery later.
2. Trace the saddle on second color felt and cut out one.
3. Using straight stitches and embroidery floss color of your choice, attach the saddle to one side of one of the llama body cutouts.
4. On the same llama body piece as the saddle, sew stitches for eye, mouth, halter and reins in embroidery floss color(s) of your choice.

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**Instructions for the Felt Llama Continued:**

5. Place wrong sides of both llama pieces together, making sure the decorative side is facing out. Sew around edges using a running stitch to attach both pieces together. Leave a one-inch opening on the neck edge of the llama.

6. Fill llama with stuffing, making sure to not overfill, then sew your opening closed using the same running stitch.

7. Step by step instructions: [https://youtu.be/K7Q4C5jO6-I](https://youtu.be/K7Q4C5jO6-I)

**Craft Tips for Felt Llama Craft:**

- Use unusual embroidery stitches to make your llama unique! Consider French knots, herringbone stitches, and chain stitches.
- Create tassels out of embroidery floss and attach to your reins for a unique look.
- If you don’t have a good marker, attach the paper templates directly to your pieces of felt with pins and cut around the template.
- Don’t have craft stuffing? Cut open an old pillow or stuffed animal and recycle its stuffing.

**Reflect and Apply**

1. Think about your own culture. What crafts or hobbies do you enjoy?
2. What are ways you could use this lesson to bring information to others?
3. What is something you learned about the Peruvian culture through this activity?
4. What does this lesson make you wonder about the Peruvian culture?

**Expand Your Experience**

- Take a virtual field trip to a Peruvian llama and alpaca farm with Nat Geo Kids: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pB0EMtupPsc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pB0EMtupPsc)
- Learn more about music, dance, and culture from around the world: [https://ket.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/music-arts-toolkit/](https://ket.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/music-arts-toolkit/)

**Supporting Projects/Events**

Kentucky 4-H International Programs provide various experience for youth and families to open their home to the world:

- International Summer Short Term Program (Inbound to USA)
- International Summer Short Term Program (Outbound from USA)
- Academic Year Program (Inbound to USA)
- Kentucky 4-H International Service-Learning Program

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References


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Image Source: Brock and Adkins (2020)

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Felt Llama Template

Llama Body. Cut out two.

Llama saddle. Cut out one in contrast color felt.