

Parent Information

Buckle up and put your sunglasses on – this half term we're going on a road trip across the USA! We'll start by 'visiting' the states where Native American tribes settled. We'll use travel brochures and the internet to research New York and write postcards to family members. Using maps, we'll locate the USA and find the names of the states. We'll look at the amazing lights of Times Square, make circuits and create a program for a tourist trip around New York. We'll write diaries and explore Native American myths. After learning about their cultural significance, we'll weave beautiful dreamcatchers. Looking at aerial views of natural landmarks, we'll think about how they might have been formed. We'll create travel brochures and make illuminated models of different landmarks. Then we'll cook delicious dishes – would anyone like a corn dog?

At the end of the project, we'll make a 'journey stick' so we can remember where we have visited. We'll use this to explain our learning journey.

Help your child prepare for their project

The USA is an incredible place, with a varied landscape and culture. Why not choose a state to research together and create a scrapbook of exciting locations? You could also make a playlist of American songs from different genres that you could listen to on your road trip. Alternatively, visit the supermarket together to see if you can identify any foods associated with the USA. You might even try some of them!

Suggested text	Native American Tales and Legends - Allan A Macfarlan; The Enchanted Moccasins and Other Native American Legends - Henry Rowe Schoolcraft; Hiawatha and the Peacemaker - Robbie Robertson; Favourite North American Indian Legends - Philip Smith
Memorable experience	Visit 14 US states
Innovate challenge	Plan a family holiday
English	Postcards; Emails; Diaries; Myths and legends; Poetry
Geography	Using world and US maps; Human and physical geography
A&D	Native American dreamcatchers; Weaving; Journey sticks
Computing	Collaborative databases and spreadsheets; Using logical reasoning; Writing programs; Effective online research; Presentations
D&T	Preparing US dishes; Making models; Designing totem pole
History	Native Americans
Music	Traditional and cultural music
PSHE	Expressing opinions; Stereotypes and discrimination
Science	Electricity
Science investigations	What conducts electricity? How do plugs work? Can you make a circuit from play dough?

