

*A Beautiful Tradition: Adaptation and Ingenuity in a Century of Plateau Women's Art*

**WORK SHEET**  
4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades

1. Where is the Plateau region located? What is its main geographical feature south of the Canadian border?

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2. Which Plateau tribes live in Montana?

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3. Name another Plateau tribe that frequently came to Montana to hunt and to trade with Plains tribes such as the Crow:

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4. What are two general cultural differences between tribes of the Plateau and those of the Plains?

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5. List at least two of the art forms common among Plateau tribes *before* they acquired beads:

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6. Plateau tribes use many different materials (or media) in their art. List four different materials used either to make or to decorate Plateau art before Europeans and Euro-Americans came to the region:

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7. Where did glass beads come from? How and when did Plateau tribes acquire them?

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8. What are the names of two sizes of beads often used as trade items?

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9. What is special about faceted (cut) beads?

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10. Beads quickly became very popular in Plateau (and Plains) art. List two of the reasons why:

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(2)

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11. What **design style** is used in the decorations on *cornhusk bags* and *baskets* of Plateau tribes?

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What **design style** is very common on the *beaded bags* of Plateau tribes?

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12. What is a **motif**? What is one motif often used on beaded Plateau-style bags and purses?

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13. What is the difference in **function** between traditional cornhusk bags and the beaded flat bags of the Plateau region?

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14. Describe **contour beading**:

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15. What is **false embroidery** and what kind of Plateau art uses this technique?

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16. Who were the primary Plateau **artists** creating twined bags and beaded bags?

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17. Describe one of the Plateau bags you like best. In your description, remember to discuss the bag's **style**, **function**, and **composition** (media used, design type, motif, colors, etc.):

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Tell why you like this bag :

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