







Teacher Guide



Chief Ouray: Ute Peacemaker

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Discussion Questions

Elementary

*"From the day he was born in 1833, Ouray walked in many worlds" – what does this mean? In what ways do you walk in many worlds? Can you think of other figures in history who have had to do the same?

*If a new friend kept breaking promises to you, what would you do? How would you feel? Then compare to what happened to Native Americans.

*Why do you think that Ouray's wife, Chipeta, was chosen as the narrator for the comic?

MS/HS

*Knowing the tumultuous and often tragic relationship between Native Americans and the U.S. government, what would you have done as a chief of a powerful tribe to help your people? (Come back to this question after reading the comic and researching the path Ouray took).

*Why do you think that Ouray's wife, Chipeta, was chosen as the narrator for the comic?

***"From the day he was born in 1833, Ouray walked in many worlds" – what does this mean? In what ways do you walk in many worlds? Can you think of other figures in history who have had to do the same?

*Was Ouray a hero to his people? Why might some view him as a traitor? Outline positive and negative.

Comic Analysis

*Panel 1.1 – React to the opening of the story about Chief Ouray – is it what you would have expected?

*Panel 2.1 – How do you think the people in Washington, DC would have viewed Ouray and his party? Why?

*Panel 2.1 –How do you think Ouray and his party are feeling? What is the evidence for your answer? Do they have much hope for the outcome of their trip to Washington, DC?

Panel 2.4 – Ouray is discussing plans with many tribal leaders – how do they feel about these discussions?

Panel 2.6 – Describe the meeting between President Hayes and Ouray.



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Lesson Ideas by Content Area

Social Studies

*Debate – actions of the Ute tribe in the Meeker Massacre – Debate Ouray as a hero or villain to his people. This could be compared to Nat Turner’s Rebellion and other controversial leaders in history.

*Mexican and Indian Revolt of 1846, Taos – what happened? Why did Ouray think that armed resistance was not the solution to stopping the “pale faces” from taking Ute lands?

*Students can use this interactive map to track the loss of Native American lands -

<http://usg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=eb6ca76e008543a89349ff2517db47e6>

*Students can research the recent Standing Rock protests as an insight into ongoing Native American agreements with the US government, such as <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/23/us/standing-rock-protest-dakota-access-pipeline.html>. In the comic, the gold discovery at the Uncompahgre River can be compared to the need for oil and other natural resources.

*Conduct a biographical study of Ouray’s second wife, Chipeta, and her role in the events of the comic.

Art

Using <https://heritage.utah.gov/history/ute-images-2> and other sources, students can create their own comic books to explain their chosen picture. Who are they? What are they doing? What is their story?

Language Arts

*Write a five-paragraph essay evaluating Ouray as a leader.

*Using the following speech by Chief Red Cloud, <https://www.commonlit.org/texts/red-cloud-s-speech-after-wounded-knee>, compare his and Ouray’s responses to the Whites. How did these leaders view their relationship with the U.S. leadership in Washington, DC?