

## Ms. Reilly – Grade 3

In third grade, we complete a unit on Native Americans. Since we are learning about whole tribes of Native Americans and how they lived, our class decided to learn more about one Native American woman who showed strength and bravery, **Sacagawea**.

Sacagawea, a Shoshone woman, was an extremely vital member of the Lewis and Clark expedition. When Louis and Clark set out to explore North America, they hoped find out about the plants and animals in the west, trade with the Native Americans, and find a passage to the Pacific Ocean. Without Sacagawea, this journey might not have been as successful as it was. She helped collect food for the group and was able to inform the group about various plants and animals that they came across. Her presence, as both a Native American and a woman, on the journey showed the other Native American tribes that they were there peacefully. She served as an interpreter for the group. In addition to this, at one point on the journey, one of their boats capsized. Sacagawea saved important medicine that they needed for the rest of the journey. Even more impressive, Sacagawea completed the entire journey carrying her baby son on her back!

She is honored on a U.S. dollar coin. Sacagawea showed courage, intelligence, and perseverance on her this expedition, making her a great hero for our class!

To find out about her, our class read a book and an article and watched video clips on Sacagawea. As a class, we discussed why she was

important to the United States and what makes her a hero. Students then wrote a response with evidence to support why they found her to be important. After this, students designed their own dollar coin with Sacagawea on it. Sacagawea is a great hero to honor as both a Native American and a woman.

Below is a bulletin board with student writing about the importance of Sacagawea and the dollar coins they designed -

