

# WHITE CRANE

**GRADES:** 3-6

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**SUBJECT:** Art, Social Studies

**TIME REQUIRED:** One hour

## **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Understand and recognize that white cranes live in Korea.
2. Make a diorama of a crane in a rice field.

## **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- Pictures of cranes from resource books or videos
- An empty shoe box
- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Glue

## **BACKGROUND:**

When driving past the rice paddies in Korea, one cannot help but notice beautiful white cranes feeding among the short rice stalks. The contrast of the mountains, with the verdant green rice paddies and the glistening white bird in the foreground, immediately catches the attention of anyone who enjoys nature. The crane, a large bird with long legs and a long neck, eats small plants, insects, worms, reptiles, the eggs of water animals and is frequently represented in Asian art. Sometimes the crane stands on one leg and dozes lazily with its head drawn back on its shoulder. It is a motif of Asian culture as well as one of the most elegant of all birds, a symbol of longevity and happiness.

## **PROCEDURES:**

1. Begin with a discussion of birds to discover what the students already know.
2. Show students a picture of a crane.
3. Describe the landscape of Korea and explain that cranes like to live and feed in marshy rice paddies.
4. Allow time for the students to draw a practice picture of a crane.
5. Provide the materials students will need and allow plenty of time for them to create a diorama of a scene in the Korean countryside.

## **EVALUATION:**

- Evaluate students on their ability to listen and discuss cranes and their surroundings.
- Evaluate the creativity and use of materials in their dioramas.

## **ENRICHMENT:**

Have the students make an origami crane or write a poem and/or paint a watercolor picture of a crane.

**RESOURCES:**

“Cranes”, *World Book Encyclopedia*. Vol. 4. World Book-Childcraft International, Inc. 1978.  
*Shamu and You, Exploring the World of Birds*. Video Treasures. La Porta and Company. 1992.