Quick Guide

Time to Complete

- **Preparation Time**: Up to 30 minutes
- **Instruction Time**: Up to 30 minutes

Key Question

How did the Native Californians and the Franciscans impact one another?

Key Take Away

While it can be easy to come to simple conclusions about their relationship, the Native Californians and the Franciscans affected each other in varied and complex ways.

Key Task

Use the primary source objects to explore two examples of how the integration of the Franciscans and the Native Californians impacted and changed traditional pieces of their cultures.

PART 1

Start Presentation

PAUSE ON SLIDE #4

Encourage Careful Looking

ELICIT student responses: “What do you notice?”
Things to Point Out

Traditional Basket
- Basketry bowl attributed to Gabrielino or Fernandeño California Natives
- Made from deer grass and Indian rush
- Example of a traditional basket, with traditionally inspired design motif

Spanish Coin
- Colonial coin from the late 18th-century in circulation during the Mission Period
- Made of silver

Mission Period Basket
- Woven by Juana Basilia, Chumash
- Made around 1815-1822
- Made of deer grass, Indian rush, and sumac
- Design motif is taken from the Spanish colonial coin
- Weavers were able to adapt their techniques to meet requests from the Franciscans

Reflection & Group Discussion

Though they continued to perform their traditional art/work of basket making, contact with the Franciscan people exposed the Native Californians to new and different things, customs, and ideas.

While some of these things likely did not appeal to the Native Californians and were not adopted into their daily lives, others they were able to find meaning in and make their own connections to.
Encourage Careful Looking

ELICIT student responses:
“What do you notice?”

Things to Point Out

Mission San Antonio Prayer Board

- Made from split wood, either juniper or incense cedar (both local trees) and ink on wax paper
- Made in 1817
- The text is a prayer that would be read at a Sunday mass service; it is written in Spanish and Salinan, a Native California language
- The design was meant to allow the board to be carried, hung up, or placed on a hymnal stand for both display and instruction
- Used by the Franciscans to expose the Native people to basic Catholic beliefs through standardized prayers and songs
Reinforce

After looking at these objects, review how life for the Native Californians changed or remained the same after contact with the Franciscans.

Conversation to Explore

- Are there any words that look familiar to you?
- Why do you think the Franciscans made these types of prayer boards?
- As the Native Californians were exposed to the prayer board and its text and songs, how much do you think it would have helped them to understand about the Franciscans’ beliefs?

Reflection & Group Discussion

“How did the Native Californians and the Franciscans impact one another?”

“How did your thoughts about the Franciscans and the Native Californians change as you learned more about them?”

“What other questions did this investigation generate for you?”