

Name _____

Sacagawea: The Guide of the Lewis and Clark Expedition

Short Answer Key

1. Sacagawea contributed to the Lewis and Clark Expedition by serving as an interpreter, guide, and diplomat. Her knowledge of native languages, plants, and geography was crucial in helping the expedition communicate with indigenous peoples, secure horses, and navigate the unfamiliar terrain.
2. Sacagawea faced the challenge of being the only woman on the expedition, which meant she had to care for her infant son, Jean Baptiste, in the wilderness. She also had to endure the hardships of the journey, including harsh weather, rugged terrain, and the risk of encounters with unfriendly tribes.
3. Sacagawea's significance in American history lies in her pivotal role as an interpreter and guide for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Her contributions helped the expedition successfully explore and map the western United States. Her legacy reflects her strength, resilience, and the importance of indigenous people in American history.
4. Sacagawea has been honored and remembered in modern times through the use of her image on the U.S. dollar coin, the Sacagawea dollar. She has also been commemorated with statues and monuments in various locations across the United States.
5. Sacagawea's role as an interpreter was essential because she could communicate with indigenous tribes the expedition encountered. This helped establish peaceful relations and secure vital resources, such as horses, for the journey. Her knowledge of native plants and geography further aided the expedition in its exploration.

