



Mount Rushmore  
National Memorial

## Mount Rushmore Education Program

The following lesson plan was developed as a part of the project to digitally preserve Mount Rushmore. In 2010, the National Park Service collaborated with CyArk—a non-profit organization dedicated to digitally preserving cultural heritage sites around the world through state-of-the-art technology—to laser scan Mount Rushmore to produce the most accurate record of the Mountain to date. In early 2012, the resulting data in the form of 3D models, drawings, and virtual tours, was released to the public via CyArk’s Mount Rushmore web portal. To explore the rich web content, including all the multimedia and lesson plans, visit the [Mount Rushmore web portal](#), or go to [archive.cyark.org](http://archive.cyark.org) to search for all related content.

As a part of the ongoing partnership between the Mount Rushmore National Memorial and CyArk, an educational workshop was held at the park to create ten lesson plans to help students in K through 12 learn about the monument through math and art concepts. The education workshop utilized the expertise of local High School math and art teachers, as well as the Mount Rushmore Interpretation and Education staff, and technical experts from CyArk.

For more information on the digital preservation project, the educational workshop, or this particular lesson plan, please contact the Interpretation and Education team at Mount Rushmore.

### **Title of Program:**

Carving Tools at Mount Rushmore

**Grade level:** 3-5    **Subject area:** Visual Arts

**Duration:** One to two 50-minute sessions

**Content Standard:** Visual Arts for Kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grades, and Visual Arts for 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

-Standards: U.S. National Standards for Visual Arts (<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators/standards/national/arts-standards/k-4/visual-arts/visual-arts-1.aspx>) and (<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators/standards/national/arts-standards/5-8/visual-arts/visual-arts-1.aspx>)

**Lesson objectives:** “The learner will be able to . . .

Learn about the marks that carving tools make. Students will learn about the processes of rock removal at Mount Rushmore and understand why the different tools were used at each point of the process.