

Eastern Shoshone Digital Collections for WY Department of Education

This document highlights three educational resources from the Eastern Shoshone Tribe's Archive, Records, and Administration Program, recommended for inclusion on the Wyoming Department of Education's Native American Education [webpage](#). These resources are intended to support educators statewide in teaching the culture and history of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe and to promote broader use of digital archival collections.

Digital Archives

1. [Digitization project](#) funded by the Doris Duke Foundation and facilitated by the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign: Shares **10 songs** including Pledge Allegiance
2. [Shoshoni Language Project](#) by the University of Utah: Educational website supporting Shoshone linguistic and cultural heritage through language preservation, revitalization and materials dissemination. The [Wick R. Miller collection](#) recently digitized **151 reel-to-reel tapes**.
3. [Eastern Shoshone Vimeo](#) funded by the Council on Library and Information Resources: Includes **22 videos categorized** as Language, Traditional Ceremonial, or Meetings. *Here are examples of how these clips can support cultural education in K-12 classrooms:*

Language <i>Language education, documentation, and revitalization efforts</i>	
Clip Title	Educational Use
EST CLIR 0091 Language	<p>This recording of the 14th Annual Shoshonean Language Reunion provides K-12 educators with a resource to teach language preservation, traditional song and dance, and the role of intergenerational knowledge in sustaining Indigenous identity.</p> <p>Wyoming's Social Studies Content and Performance Standards designate grades 4, 5, and 8 as key benchmarks for assessing students' understanding of cultural diversity and history. These grades are pivotal for introducing and deepening knowledge about</p>

	Indigenous cultures. ¹
EST_CLIR_0094_Language	This Shoshone Language Gathering, hosted by the Eastern Shoshone Tribal Cultural Center, offers educators a valuable resource for exploring language preservation, cultural storytelling, and intergenerational learning. Featuring elders sharing songs and stories alongside youth reflections, the video emphasizes the importance of community leadership and the active role of young people in sustaining Shoshone traditions.

Traditional Ceremonial <i>Ceremonies, dances, songs, and rituals</i>	
Clip Title	Educational Use
EST_CLIR_0090 Traditional Ceremonial	The <i>Gift of the Waters Pageant</i> video in Thermopolis, WY provides an opportunity to explore colonial frameworks in historical narratives, particularly how the land cession story is told and who controls the narrative. This content is most appropriate for grades 7–12 , where students can critically analyze the portrayal of Indigenous peoples and learn to question the dominant historical perspectives presented in public events.
EST_CLIR_0089 Traditional Ceremonial	This reenactment of the 1868 Fort Bridger Treaty, performed in both English and Shoshone at the original signing site, serves as a tool for classrooms to explore Eastern Shoshone history, treaty rights, and the significance of language in preserving cultural and political identity. The inclusion of both English and Shoshone in the reenactment reflects a commitment to language revitalization, highlighting the importance of linguistic preservation for the Eastern Shoshone.

¹ Wyoming Department of Education. (2018). *2018 Wyoming social studies content and performance standards*. <https://edu.wyoming.gov/downloads/standards/2018/Social-Studies-Standards.pdf>.

Meetings <i>Community planning, discussions, and tribal government proceedings</i>	
Clip Title	Educational Use
EST_CLIR_0084 Meetings	This recording of a 2007 public meeting led by WY State Representative Ivan Posey offers teachers a civic learning resource, highlighting Indigenous governance, youth engagement, and community-based decision-making within the Shoshone General Council. Students in grades 7–12 can grasp the concepts of governance, voting, and community involvement, and begin to understand the broader role of youth in leadership and civic life.
EST_CLIR_0080 Meetings	This 2007 public meeting, led by Eastern Shoshone tribal member Ivan Posey, provides students with a look at Indigenous self-governance, offering insights into the history and reform of the Shoshone General Council and civic participation. This footage of how to get engagement of younger tribe members and increasing voter turnout to 1,000 members could also be used to teach students about the importance of youth involvement in governance, the challenges of voter engagement in underrepresented communities, and strategies for encouraging civic participation in local and national elections.