



## Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

**Report Title:** Visit Australia to learn how relocation legislation and policies affected Indigenous Australian Culture as compared to that of Native Americans

**Name:** Nina Corley

**Other Team Members:**

**Program:** Greater Houston Area Program

**Trip Dates:** 11/30/-0001 - 11/30/-0001

**Location Visited:** Australia (Sydney, Adelaide, Alice Springs, Uluru and Brisbane)

**Post Fellowship Reporting Template:** PFR Template 01

**Project Summary:** My project set out as a visit to Australia in order to learn about the relocation legislation and policies and how they have affected the Indigenous Culture in order that I might compare and contrast this with the Native Americans. I visited 4 major cities and Uluru. While in each of the cities, I explored the national, natural history and cultural museums as well as aboriginal culture centers. I learned about the history of the country and the relocation and legislation policies through interviews with museum staff, everyday citizens both aboriginal and non aboriginal. I listened to lectures on the subject from both points of view. At the Australia Museum in Sydney, there was a whole floor dedicated to this subject, in Adelaide the South Australian Museum had 2 floors dedicated to the history of the Indigenous peoples as well as a State Library for my research. I was able to visit an elementary school and get not only the views of the adults, those at the cultural centers, but also that of the children, students the age of the students I teach. I learned aboriginal crafts and skills to be able to bring back to the classroom and teach my own students. I traveled to Uluru, the most sacred place of the Indigenous peoples of Australia. I learned about the climate the geography the native animals and how the culture of the Aboriginal was changed with the introduction of non native species. I visited Native lands like the Reservations in the United States and was able to learn not only about Australia but to learn more about myself as well.

**Career Impact:** I set out to learn information that I incorporate into my current classroom curriculum and I came back with far more than I ever anticipated. I came back with not only information that I had gleaned from all the experiences and research but with a rekindled desire to teach, with a renewed knowledge that teaching does make a difference, that the world is not so different even when you travel to other places. I learned new methods of teaching from teachers in Australia and brought back also a desire to share not only the history I learned but knowledge of Sun Safety I am implementing at school.

**Classroom/Community Impact:** The entire school has benefited from the photos, video, the excitement of the trip. The photos from the trip are all posted online and the other teachers have access to them to use within their classroom as well as materials and information that I brought back. The information on sun safety that I learned while there has become a new project in our school to obtain hats so that all the students will wear a hat when they go out to recess and to PE. After Ike we lost most of the shade trees. The school is trying to get an awning for the playground as direct result of my fellowship.

**Open Response:** \*unit on aboriginal music (didgeridoo, clapsticks etc.) and the words and meanings to native music  
\*unit on aboriginal Art -meaning behind the art work and how the art and subject matter has been affected after the relocation of native groups  
\*unit on sun safety and procuring an awning for the playground  
\*penpal relationship between my class and one in Adelaide  
\*unit comparing the Native American relocation and legislation to that of the Australian Aborigines  
\*photo/video presentation to be used by other teachers in the school

**Quote:** I have gained a much deeper understanding of the students that I teach, the country where I live, and of who I am, through the experience of travel and study in Australia.

Photos:



Nina learning about the cultural relationship between Kangaroos and Aboriginals



Nina at Muru Mittigar Cultural Center learning how to throw a boomerang



Nina learning aboriginal crafts to take back to the classroom



Nina listening to stories while cooking kangaroo tail and weaving



Nina on the way to Uluru (Ayers Rock)



Nina on a Camel Tour near the Todd River in Alice Springs



Nina doing research at The Rocks Museum in Sydney



Nina in front of the Opera House in Sydney