



Woods Canyon Pueblo

Life on the Edge

Archaeology at Woods Canyon Pueblo Fourth Grade Study Guide

PART ONE: Read the "Who, What, Where, and When" information in *Woods Canyon Pueblo: Life on the Edge*, and answer the following questions.

Who, What, Where, and When?

1. What are two names for the people who lived at Woods Canyon Pueblo?

2. Name three ways that the ancient Pueblo people provided food for themselves.

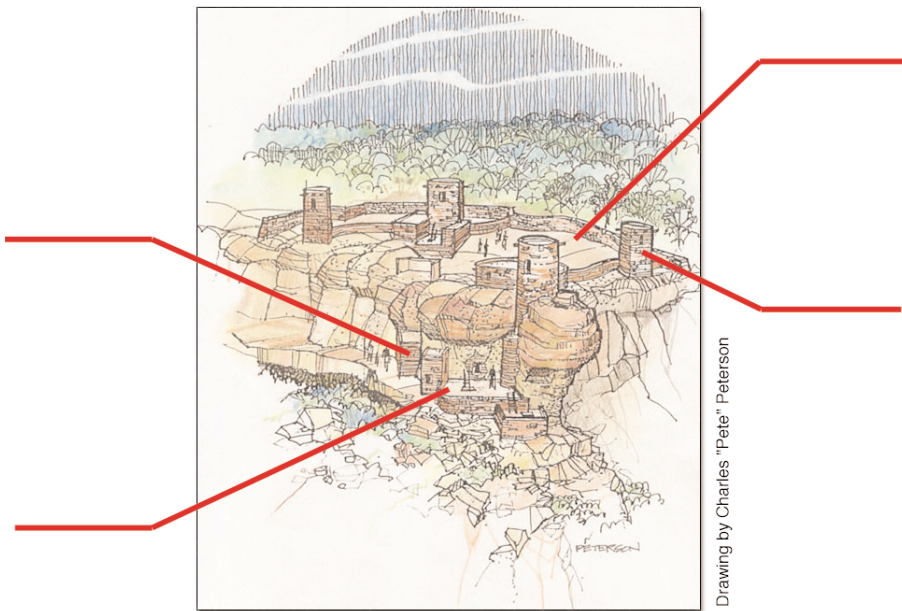
3. How many people do archaeologists think might have lived at Woods Canyon Pueblo? _____

4. Match the kind of building or space found at Woods Canyon Pueblo with its possible purpose:

- a. Roomblock _____ underground room for religious and everyday living activities
- b. Plaza _____ watchtower, solar observation, storage, and ceremonial activities
- c. Kiva _____ aboveground rooms for living and storage
- d. Tower _____ open space for working, relaxing, and social and religious gatherings

5. On the picture below, label each kind of building or space found at Woods Canyon Pueblo.

- a. Roomblock
- b. Plaza
- c. Kiva
- d. Tower



Drawing by Charles "Pete" Peterson

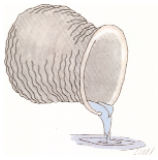
6. Where is Woods Canyon Pueblo located? _____

7. The ancient Pueblo people built new structures at Woods Canyon in about A.D. 1250. Where did they build these roomblocks, kivas, plazas, and towers? Circle the correct answer.

- a. On a mesa top b. On the cliff edge and steep side of the canyon c. At the bottom of the canyon

PART TWO: When archaeologists studied Woods Canyon Pueblo, they worked to answer the following research question: **Why did the ancient Pueblo people choose to live at Woods Canyon Pueblo?**

You are challenged to answer the same question. *Woods Canyon Pueblo: Life on the Edge* contains information about water, farming, natural resources, defense, and beauty. This information will help you understand why the ancient Pueblo people lived at Woods Canyon Pueblo. Read each section and answer the following questions. In Part Three of this study guide, you will be asked to choose one theory or reason that you think best explains why the people chose to live at Woods Canyon.



Water

1. Circle the phrase that best describes the environment of Woods Canyon in southwestern Colorado.
a. wet, with lots of rain every year b. dry, with only about 13 inches of rain a year
2. Name five ways that the ancient Pueblo people used water: _____

3. Name two things that the people of Woods Canyon Pueblo built to conserve and manage water:

4. What permanent (year-round) source of water did the people of Woods Canyon Pueblo use?

5. If you could not get water by simply turning on the faucet in your house, how would you get water every day?
How far would you have to travel to collect water?



Farming

1. How many people do archaeologists think lived in the Mesa Verde area in the late A.D. 1200s? _____
2. What plants did the ancient Pueblo farmers grow? _____
3. What were the two best places to grow crops in southwestern Colorado?

4. According to Karen Adams, why did the ancient farmers build on the canyon edge?



Natural Resources

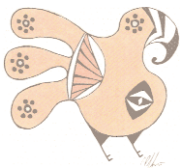
1. Name five things that were needed by the ancient Pueblo people and are still needed by people today.

2. Match the natural resource found near Woods Canyon Pueblo with the product(s) made from the natural resource:
 - a. Sandstone _____ arrowheads
 - b. Quartzite _____ pottery (bowls, jars, and mugs)
 - c. Clay _____ walls and buildings
3. According to Crow Canyon archaeologist Scott Ortman, how does “knowledge of local natural resources and an understanding of how to use them” develop?



Defense

1. According to archaeologist Mark Varien, what four changes in the size, location, and construction of Woods Canyon Pueblo might have made the village easier to protect?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
2. What structure found at Woods Canyon Pueblo was not common before A.D. 1150? _____
3. Why would a village on a canyon rim be easier to defend than a village on a flat mesa top? _____



Beauty

1. All human beings enjoy beauty. List three places that you find beautiful:

2. How did the ancient Pueblo people make places and objects in their lives beautiful?

Archaeology at Woods Canyon Pueblo Fourth Grade Study Guide (continued)

3. On the left is a photograph of an 800-year-old pottery mug. The mug's designer made it beautiful by decorating it with important symbols and designs. Next to this ancient mug is the outline of another mug. **Decorate this mug with symbols and designs that are important to you. Make it beautiful!**



Painted mug made 800 years ago
(A.D. 1200s).



Your mug decorated with symbols
that are important to you.

PART THREE: Now that you have read about the importance of water, farming, natural resources, defense, and beauty, it is time for you to choose the theory or reason that you think best explains why the ancient Pueblo people chose to live at Woods Canyon.

Below, you will find a list of the reasons people might have chosen to live at Woods Canyon. Rank these reasons from the most important (1) to the least important (5). For example, if you think natural resources best explains why people moved to Woods Canyon, write "1" next to natural resources, and if you think defense is the second-most-important reason, write "2" next to it. Rank the reasons: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

- _____ Water
- _____ Farming
- _____ Natural Resources
- _____ Defense
- _____ Beauty

Now answer these questions to explain your answers:

1. Why do you think the reason you ranked first is the best explanation for why the ancient Pueblo people chose to live at Woods Canyon Pueblo? _____

2. Why do you think the reason you ranked second is the next-best reason to explain why the ancient Pueblo people chose to live at Woods Canyon Pueblo? _____

3. Was it difficult to choose a single most-important reason to explain why the people lived at Woods Canyon Pueblo? Why or why not? _____
