



# Lockdown in Lincoln, Part IV

## Safety and Security in La Placita

### Social Studies Lesson Plan Grades 4, 5 & 7

**SWBATD** synthesis of their knowledge by creating a small replica torreón using natural and man-made materials.

#### Materials:

- plastic to cover work tables or chairs
- empty soup cans (1 per student)
- hot glue (teacher prepared) or Elmer's glue (student)
- air-drying clay
- bowls with small amount of water (1 per student)
- small gravel
- cardboard (one 4"x4" square per student)
- tealight candles
- marker (to write names on bottom of cardboard)

#### Teacher Preparation:

Using hot glue to affix soup cans to cardboard is recommended. (For safety reasons, students should not be allowed to handle a hot-glue gun.) If preferred, students can use regular glue to affix their can to cardboard, however, the cans should be allowed to dry overnight.

#### Day 4~

#### Anticipatory Set:

Ask students "who can remember what natural materials the early settlers used to build their homes and structures?" (adobe made from clay soil, water and straw, rock, juniper & cedar posts, lumber, etc.)

#### Activity

1. Demonstrate for students the technique for covering the exterior of their soup can with clay.
  - Roll out clay to form a coil and circle around soup can from bottom to top
  - or
  - pinch off pieces of clay and affix edge-to-edge until soup can is covered
2. Use small amounts of water to create "slip" (thin, watery clay substance to smooth edges and keep pieces together).
3. Before clay dries, press gravel-sized rocks into clay in a mosaic technique.
4. Allow clay to dry completely.
5. Place tealight inside soup can to create a torreón candleholder.

#### Strand: Geography:

- **II-C1.** – Explain how geographic factors have influenced people, including settlement patterns and population distribution in New Mexico, past and present.
- **II-C2.** – Describe how environments, both natural and man-made, have influenced people and events over time and describe how places change.

## Closure

“What is the shape that we created when we made our torreon candleholder? Who can remember what the advantage was to round walls?”

## Homework

Offer a prize to the student who can think of another example of round walls that was used in the past for defensive purposes. (Answer: castle towers)