

Northern Plains History and Cultures

How Do Native People and Nations Experience Belonging?



Photograph courtesy of Red Cloud Indian School

Sonia Weston, with granddaughter Alex, working on the tribally-run Red Cloud Indian School's "Our Community Story" project, in which students interviewed twenty-two community members on film. Among the Lakota people, storytelling is a sacred form of communication. For centuries, elders have passed history, tradition, and culture on to their children and grandchildren through the telling of stories. They ensured the survival of essential community knowledge through storytelling, transferring it from generation to generation.