



Teacher Guide



Teresita Sandoval

Writer: Jeremy Whitley

Artist: Ruth Clark

Teacher Guide: Tim Smyth

Discussion Questions

Elementary

1. What was life like as a pioneer? How did they dress? What were their jobs? Do you think it was dangerous?
2. Describe a brave woman in your life or one you know about. What makes her brave? (This might be a perfect time to introduce strong women in comics).
3. In what ways can life sometimes be challenging for a woman or a girl?
4. How would you describe yourself? What adjectives would you use? How would you want your great grandkids to remember you?

MS/HS

1. Under Mexican law, women were able to own land and to even begin divorce proceedings. Following the Mexican-American War, Sandoval's lands could no longer be held by a woman. Discuss and connect to the United States and gender equality today.
2. Sandoval is described as keeping her lands from falling into the hands of rival ranchers. How do you think she was able to stop them?
3. Panel 2.5 - "We remember her today as a pioneer both across land and society." Explain the meaning of this quote.

Comic Analysis

1. "I'm holding him and he's excited to meet you." – what does Sandoval mean by this statement? Use textual evidence to explain the personification. (Panel 1.2)
2. Teresita and her daughter, Cruzita, both have different looks on their faces. Describe the personality of each by what you see in the comic. If you were one of the ranchers, what would you read in Tersita's facial expression? (Panel 1.2)
3. In panel 1.3, describe the home where Sandoval lived with her daughter. How does the artwork make you feel?

Lesson Ideas by Content Area

Social Studies

1. Use <https://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=64751> – have students analyze the historical marker for Sandoval. Look at the map and discover where it is in relation to the students' school. Analyze the inscription – what do students think about it? What would they change? Add? Delete? Have them write their own. Analyze the stature itself – what do students think about its design, size, etc? If they raised funds, what would they create? Have students sketch out their own statue. This is also a great chance for cross-curricular lessons with Language Arts and Art.



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2. Have students research Teresita Sandoval's biography and create a timeline and map of her life and travels.
3. Have students research the history of Pueblo, Colorado. What did it look like as a fort in Sandoval's time? What are the connections to the Christmas Eve Massacre, Pike's Peak, and President Eisenhower's quote: "What is it... something in the water out here in Pueblo? All you guys turn out to be heroes!" Who were the Founders of El Pueblo?
4. From panel 2.3, "my mom interacted with some of the wildest and best known characters on the frontier." Two of these were Kit Carson and James Beckwourth – research and create a biography on each.

English–

1. Students can study historical epitaphs and create one for Sandoval. A powerful literacy tool is to have students summarize large pieces of text into a much smaller framework. To engage 21st Century learners, students can create a Twitter epitaph for Sandoval. The teacher can create a hashtag and have the students all tweet their creations to this hashtag. (Ex - #Sanditaph)

Art

1. Students can create an original piece of art to update the Sandoval historical marker. If available, students could create a model on a 3-D printer, or using clay, Legos, etc.
2. Students can create a US postage stamp to represent and celebrate Sandoval's contributions to establishing the west.
3. Students can create a wall mural as inspired by Sandoval's life with a focus on artifacts and symbols.

Multi-Media

1. Create a ballad or biography video that delivers an audio and visual representation of her life.

Resources –

History Colorado Museum

Biography http://www.historycolorado.org/sites/default/files/files/Kids_Students/Bios/Teresita_Sandoval.pdf

More info about Sandoval's Sculpture - <https://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=64751>

Women of the West Museum Biography - <http://www.his.com/~njohn/wow/teresita.htm>