Journal Entry Activity

I. Introduction

The use of diaries as a primary source for the study of history not only makes the past seem real to students but reveals the value of such records for all who wish to learn from the past.

II. Objective

Students will create a journal excerpt explaining what it would have been like facing the conditions Juan Bautista De Anza and his company faced on their journey across traditional Kumeyaay lands.

III. Background

Juan Bautista de Anza and two priests kept detailed journal entries of their journey from Northern Mexico to San Francisco Bay. They encountered many points of interest along their trips, especially in the Yuha Desert.

IV. Materials Needed

- Pencil or pen
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayon
- Journal Entry Template

V. Instructions

Pretend that you are one of the people on Juan Bautista De Anza’s expeditions. Write about your experience in the Yuha Desert and one of the places you encountered on your way that points to evidence of the Kumeyaay’s 10,000-year history in the Yuha Desert.