



Date:

1890

Identifier:

T0402

Description:

Women spent much of their time procuring food for their families. By locating and gathering nuts, roots, berries and other fruits and vegetables, they contribute to the family and community by adding important nutrients to the diet. As young girls they learned basket weaving and pottery from their mothers and grandmothers. They collected plant fibers such as spruce root, cedar bark, and cornhusk to weave into baskets and bags. They tended these plants and made offerings to the spirits when they harvested what was needed. In the southwest, women collected clays to sculpt into jars for storing wheat and corn. All of these activities were highly ritualized. The ritual and spiritual celebration of first fruits is still observed today and some women belong to long-established Root Societies.

Physical dimensions:

length 22.375 in ; width 18.25

Format:

Bag

Coverage:

Idaho ; OR (Oregon) ; Nez Perce

American Indian Art

[Add to selection](#)

Source URL: <http://collections.fenimoreartmuseum.org/node/4235#comment-0>