

## Teacher Inquiry Kit: 6-12

### Jamie Fox

<b>Title</b>	Veteran Jamie Fox Connects Military and Music
<b>Author(s)</b>	Ellen Baumler
<b>Grade Level</b>	6-12
<b>Soldier</b>	Jamie Fox
<b>Tribal Affiliation</b>	Aaniiih (Gros Ventre), Nakoda (Assiniboine), and Metis
<b>Branch of Service</b>	Air Force, 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron, Staff Sergeant
<b>Dates of Service</b>	2007-2017
<b>Essential Question</b>	How did Jamie Fox use her military experience as the framework for her life's pathway in the arts?
<b>Contextual Paragraph</b>	<p>Jamie Fox, whose heritage is Nakoda, Gros Ventre, and Métis, grew up in a close-knit community on Fort Belknap Reservation in northern Montana. She remembers a wonderful childhood, playing outside in the creeks and appreciating the beauty of the landscape. Despite her pastoral surroundings, however, there was significant noise pollution from nearby Malmstrom and Ellsworth military bases. Military aircraft typically practice over reservation lands, and Jamie became fascinated with the heavy aircraft as she watched their maneuvers. B-1's, F-16's and KC-10's thundering low overhead inspired Jamie to aim for a career in aviation. Jamie's father, also an aviation enthusiast, encouraged her interest, and as in many Native American families, Jamie's relatives carried a long and rich</p>


tradition of military service. Both her grandfathers were World War II veterans and numerous uncles and aunts served during the Korean, Vietnam, and Desert Storm eras.



Service became a logical decision, but not at first. As a 17-year-old high school senior thinking ahead to college, in 2007 Jamie applied to, and was accepted at, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She still cherishes that acceptance letter, but realizing the expense, and unwilling to burden her parents, Jamie opted to put off college and enlist in the Air Force so she could later pay her own way.


It took many months of waiting to get the job slot she wanted. Jamie was twice deployed to the Middle East, first to Doha, Qatar in the Persian Gulf and then to Kandahar, Afghanistan with the 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron (EAMS). Jamie served in the Air Force until 2017. She was one of few women trained in heavy aircraft maintenance keeping B1 bombers and C-17 Globemaster IIIs mission ready. Confident and highly skilled, she was honored as Airman of the Month and Airman of the Quarter. As a crew chief, she held the lives of those who flew in those planes literally in her hands.



Like other Indian veterans, Jamie considers military service a high honor and the extension of the traditional warrior society into which she was born. During a visit home to Fort Belknap following her first deployment, Jamie's community ceremoniously paid her tribute with an eagle feather, a high honor. Her mother was equally honored with a star quilt. Jamie explains that worry for a child in service makes a mother a warrior, too.


Contemporary Indian veterans like Jamie continue to serve and honor their warrior culture, but it is not only military service that is important to her. Jamie's musically talented family has preserved their rich traditions steeped in Celtic, French, and Native American cultures. As a youngster of 10, Jamie learned to play the fiddle. With her father and siblings, her family has widely shared their cultural songs and step dances. When she enlisted, Jamie took her fiddle with her. And later, her cultural heritage and her music helped her through the difficult transition from military back to civilian life.


	<p>Today, Jamie is a highly acclaimed Métis master fiddler who shares and teaches her craft. Her military 2 service is part of who she is, and like her art, she celebrates it. “I wish that more veterans would share their stories,” she says, “and celebrate what will always be a big part of [their] life”.</p>
<p><b>C3 Standards</b></p>	<p>D2.His.3.6-8. Use questions generated about individuals and groups to analyze why they, and the developments they shaped, are seen as historically significant.</p> <p>D2.His.14.6-8. Explain multiple causes and effects of events and developments in the past</p>
<p><b>Primary Source 1: Permanent Link</b></p> 	<p>Place the link of your primary source here.</p> <p><a href="#">Jamie Fox collection: Veterans History Project (Library of Congress (loc.gov))</a></p> <p>Video interview</p>
<p><b>Title of Primary Source</b></p>	<p>What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one.</p> <p>“Interview with Jamie Fox”</p>
<p><b>Suggested questions for the source</b></p>	<p>What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How did Jamie’s childhood influence her decision to join the Air Force?</li> <li>2. What was the most difficult aspect of Jamie’s military experience?</li> <li>3. What was the difference between deployment to Qatar and then to Kandahar?</li> <li>4. How did Jamie deal with the constant fear and stress during her deployment to Kandahar?</li> <li>5. How was Jamie’s mother honored for her daughter’s service and why?</li> </ol>

<p><b>Primary Source 2: Permanent Link</b></p> 	<p>Place the link of your primary source here. <a href="#">Jamie Fox honor your self poster (mt.gov)</a></p>
<p><b>Title of Primary Source</b></p>	<p>What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one. "Honor Your Self"</p>
<p><b>Suggested questions for the source</b></p>	<p>What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In what ways are Jamie's Indian heritage and the military similar?</li> <li>2. What do you think was Jamie's key to success?</li> <li>3. Why was Jamie's job in the military of vital importance?</li> <li>4. How do you think music helped prepare Jamie for military life?</li> <li>5. What is Jamie's message to students?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Primary Source 3 Permanent Link</b></p> 	<p>Place the link of your primary source here. <a href="#">Kandahar's EAMS maintains airpower for AOR &gt; U.S. Air Forces Central &gt; News (af.mil)</a></p>

<b>Title of Primary Source</b>	What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one. "Kandahar's EAMS Maintains Air Power for AOR"
<b>Suggested questions for the source (3-5)</b>	What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source? 1. Jamie was serving in the 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron (EAMS) at the time this article was written. What were some of its missions and what was its main role? 2. How important was Jamie's job and why? 3. Would you know from this article that women were included in the EAMS? Why or why Not? 4. What are some of the difficulties maintaining the C-17's? 5. What would make this job stressful?
<b>Primary Source 4 Permanent Link</b> 	Place the link of your primary source here. <a href="#">Metis in Montana Mitchif Heritage Keepers</a>
<b>Title of Primary Source</b>	What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one. "Metis in Montana"
<b>Suggested questions for the source (3-5)</b>	What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source? 1. Who are the Metis and what is "Mitchif" (also spelled "Michif")? 2. How is Jamie connected to the Metis? 3. The Metis have no reservation, so why did Jamie grow up on the Belknap reservation? 4. Is it important to preserve Metis culture? If so, why?
<b>Possible discussion prompts beyond the questions. (2)</b>	What is a discussion prompt(s) that could be used besides the questions above? 1. Why is language important? 2. In what ways can people preserve their culture?
<b>Primary Source 5 Permanent Link</b>	Place the link of your primary source here. <a href="#">About – 3fiddlers3traditions</a>

	
<b>Title of Primary Source</b>	What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one. "Three Fiddlers, Three Traditions"
<b>Suggested questions for the source (3-5)</b>	What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source? What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source? 1. How did Jamie learn to play this special type of music? 2. What is the difference between Jamie's fiddling and that of the other two fiddlers? 3. What was one important benefit in bringing Michif traditions to the Belknap reservation? 4. How did Michif traditions originate? 5. What is so unique about these three performers? Compare and contrast their talents.
<b>Possible discussion prompts beyond the questions. (2)</b>	What is a discussion prompt(s) that could be used besides the questions above? 1. Preserving cultural traditions is one thing, but how do they survive over time so that they can be preserved? 2. What are some ways of sharing cultural traditions with others of different cultures?
<b>Primary Source 6: Permanent Link</b> 	Place the link of your primary source here. <a href="#">White Buffalo - Jamie Fox - Bing video</a> Performance video
<b>Title of Primary Source</b>	What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one. "Jamie Fox Performs 'White Buffalo'"
<b>Suggested questions for the source</b>	What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source? 1. Now that you have experienced Jamie's fiddling, what is most impressive about it?

	<p>2. How can you tell that Jamie is passionate about this music?</p> <p>3. Military and music do not seem to be connected, but how do you think Jamie’s military service helped her become a better musician?</p> <p>4. Of all the things soldiers might bring with them when they deploy overseas, why did Jamie choose to bring her fiddle?</p>
<b>Possible discussion prompts beyond the questions. (2)</b>	<p>What is a discussion prompt(s) that could be used besides the questions above?</p> <p>1. If you were far away from home, what would help you get through homesickness?</p> <p>2. Think about your own special passions or talents. What can you learn from Jamie about following one’s passions and refining one’s talents?</p>
<b>Primary Source 7: Permanent Link</b> 	<p>Place the link of your primary source here.</p> <p><a href="#">Veterans History Project Art Showcase: Operation Song &amp; Jamie Fox - Bing video</a></p> <p>Find the video of Jamie on this video at 43.33.</p>
<b>Title of Primary Source</b>	<p>What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one.</p> <p>“Operation Song and Jamie Fox”</p>
<b>Suggested questions for the source</b>	<p>What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source?</p> <p>1. Here Jamie performs with her friend and piano accompanist and fiddler Scotty Leach. Jamie speaks to the audience between sets. What does she say about her special friendship with Scotty and why is that friendship so important to her?</p> <p>2. Why did Jamie find it difficult to connect with civilians after her military experience?</p> <p>3. What valuable lifetime anchor did Jamie find in the arts?</p>

	<p>4. Jamie never told other soldiers what she always carried in her backpack. What did she say it contained, and why did she never disclose the truth?</p>
<p><b>Possible discussion prompts beyond the questions. (2)</b></p>	<p>What is a discussion prompt(s) that could be used besides the questions above?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are “the arts” and how do you think the military can connect with them?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Secondary Source 8: Permanent Link</b></p> 	<p>Place the link of your primary source here.</p> <p><a href="http://ftbelknap.org">History (ftbelknap.org)</a></p>
<p><b>Title of Secondary Source</b></p>	<p>What is the title of your source? If it does not have one please write an appropriate one.</p> <p>“Fort Belknap History”</p>
<p><b>Suggested questions for the source</b></p>	<p>What are 3 - 5 questions that can be used with this source?</p>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was essential for the survival of the Assiniboine and Gros Ventre and how was it procured and used?</li> <li>2. Why are the Assiniboine known as “the Stoney” to Canadians?</li> <li>3. Explain why the French named the Aaniiih “Gros Ventre.”</li> <li>4. Why did the Gros Ventre refuse to move to Fort Peck and how was this resolved?</li> <li>5. What does this history have to do with Jamie Fox?</li> </ol>
<b>Possible discussion prompts beyond the questions. (2)</b>	<p>What is a discussion prompt(s) that could be used besides the questions above?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What happened to change the way of life of the Assiniboine and Aaniiih?</li> <li>2. Why would indigenous people of today want to serve in the military?</li> </ol>
<b>Works Cited</b>	<p>Please provide MLA citations for your primary/ secondary sources used in this lesson.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Veterans History Project, “Jamie Fox Collection.” American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, 2019, <a href="#">Jamie Fox collection: Veterans History Project (Library of Congress (loc.gov))</a></li> <li>2. Montana Office of Public Instruction, “Jamie Fox Honor Yourself Poster Series,” Indian Education for All Unit, 2008, <a href="#">Jamie Fox honor your self poster (mt.gov)</a></li> <li>3. Staff Sgt. David Carbajal, “Kandahar’s EAMS Maintains Airpower for AOR,” US Air Forces Central, January 18, 2012, <a href="#">Kandahar's EAMS maintains airpower for AOR &gt; U.S. Air Forces Central &gt; News (af.mil)</a></li> <li>4. Mitchif Heritage Keepers, “The Metis in Montana,” 2021, <a href="#">Metis in Montana Mitchif Heritage Keepers</a></li> <li>5. Nicholas Vrooman et al, “3Fiddlers, 3Traditions,” website for Jamie Fox, Kristian Brugge and Ruthie Dornfield, no date, <a href="#">About – 3fiddlers3traditions</a></li> <li>6. Jamie Fox Fiddling, “Jamie Fox Performs ‘White Buffalo’,” Phil Williams, YouTube, February 23, 2014, <a href="#">White Buffalo - Jamie Fox - Bing video</a></li> </ol>

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|  | <p>7. Veteran History Project Art Showcase, "Operation Song and Jamie Fox," Library of Congress, January 17, 2020, <a href="#">Veterans History Project Art Showcase: Operation Song &amp; Jamie Fox - Bing video</a></p> <p>8. Fort Belknap Indian Community, "Welcome to Fort Belknap Indian Community," Fort Belknap website, 2021, <a href="#">History (ftbelknap.org)</a></p> |
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