Totem Poles

Art of the Northwest Native Americans

Thursday, October 13, 2011
Facts about Totem Poles

Totem poles were and still are made by native tribes living along the Pacific Ocean in the northwest corner of the United States.

Totem poles are carved from tree trunks and stood in front of most homes.

Totem poles tell a story about the family that lives in the home as well as tell strangers where to find food and shelter.

Animals on totem poles are very stylized.

Each animal on a totem pole has a specific meaning attached.
Guess the animal...
Guess the animal...

Eagle
Killer Whales

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Salmon
This one is a bit tougher!
This one is a bit tougher!

Bear
Raven & Moon
For today:

- Choose an animal from the animal books.
- Draw that animal in the style of the northwest native americans.
- Fill the entire paper with the animal you choose.
Artist Statement

What did you learn about totem poles?

How did you stylize your totem pole animal?

What is your favorite part about your project?

How could you make your work better?