

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Native American Life - Learn 360 Video Notes

Directions: As you watch the video, fill in the blanks.

Special scientists called _____ study artifacts to help them understand how people lived long ago. Because of artifacts, we know how Native American people lived. The kinds of clothes they wore, the houses they built and even what they ate.

Where did the first people who lived in North America come from?

A long time ago, a huge chunk of ice, called a _____, covered the land. The glacier made a narrow bridge 56 miles wide that connected North America to Asia. This is now known as the Bering _____. Big animals like woolly mammoths, bison, and caribou, crossed the bridge from Asia to America looking for food. Asian peoples hunted these animals, following them into North and South America. The Asian hunters _____, or travelled, to North America and South America, settling in different parts of the continent. They became the very first native Americans.

Native Americans depended on _____ for everything. So, the land and weather greatly affected their food supply, the way they built their shelters, and the kind of clothing that they wore. Let's take a look at the lives of native Americans who lived in the northwest, the Southwest, the Plains, and the Woodland areas of the _____ continent.

Native Americans of the Woodlands

The Native Americans of the woodlands lived in the deep forest of the Eastern United States and Canada. They formed different groups, or _____, like the Iroquois, the Algonquin, and the Ojibwa. Everything they needed to live came from the forest. The many lakes and rivers provided water for drinking, cooking and bathing and plenty of fish for food.

The trees of the woodlands were used in many ways. Some Woodland Native Americans used trees to build large, rectangular shaped homes or _____. They were made from large wood poles and bark. 30 or more families lived in a long house together as a tightly knit community.

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|------------|---------|----------|----------------|-------------|
| Word Bank: | glacier | tribes | archeologists | Strait |
| | nature | migrated | North American | long houses |

_____ were smaller kinds of palaces the eastern woodlands people built. Usually one or two families lived in one wigwam. They were also made from bark and wood poles.

The peoples of the eastern woodlands hunted for deer rabbits, and foxes and fished in lakes and streams. When _____ brought deer back to the village they dried the meat so it could last through the winter. They use the skin for cloths, and the bones to make tools. In fact, they used every part of the animal. Nothing was wasted.

The woodlands people also _____. Women did a lot of the farming, and played an important role in these communities. The women managed the farms, homes, and children. And they hand crafted beautiful baskets and pottery that still survive to this day.

The native Americans of the eastern woodlands believe that everything in nature has a spirit. The woodlands people have _____ to thank the spirits when they planted and gathered their crops. Drums and masks were very important in woodland spiritual ceremonies.

Native Americans of the Great Plains

The Great Plains stretch across most of the _____ of what is now the United States and Canada. These vast expanses of prairie land run west of the Mississippi river to the Rocky Mountains and from Canada south to Mexico. Some of the tribes that lived in the Great Plains were the Cheyenne, the Crow, the Blackfoot, the Comanche, and the Sioux.

Often _____, these people frequently moved from place to place. Usually to follow the great herds of _____ that once roamed the land. They relied on the buffalo for almost everything. Food, clothes, tools, weapons, and shelter. Because the plains tribes moved around so much, they needed houses that were easy to carry.

Their houses, _____ are like big tents. They could be built and taken apart very quickly.

The plains tribes were great buffalo hunters. Groups of hunters worked together to stage a massive buffalo hunt. After a hunt they did not waste any of the buffalo. They used every part.

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| Word Bank: | buffalo | teepees | hunters | wigwams |
| | nomadic | farmed | middle | ceremonies |

The _____ did much of the work. They gathered food growing on the plains such as wild plants, roots, and berries which were also used as medicine.

Religious ceremonies were a very important part of the lives of the plains Native Americans. They held ceremonies to _____ the great spirit, to name a baby, and to celebrate things like a girl's entrance into adulthood, a boy's first hunt, marriage and death.

Native Americans of the Southwest

The _____ of the American Southwest are the homelands of many Native Americans. The weather is hot most of the time and it's very dry. There are _____, cliffs, and hills with flat tops called mesas. Here, the Hopi, Zuni, Apache, and Navajo all built amazing civilizations which their descendants still take pride in today.

Because there aren't many trees, the people of the Southwest found other forms of shelter. The people began to build homes out of _____ and grass mixed with water to make bricks or adobe. These houses were called _____. They stood two or three stories high and have lots of rooms inside. Hundreds of people could live in one pueblo house.

Because of the dry weather, the Native Americans of the southwest used _____ very carefully and never wasted it. And because so few animals live in the desert, southwest Native Americans could not depend on hunting for food. Instead, they became _____. Southwestern Native Americans grew squash, beans, and more than 24 different kinds of corn. Corn was eaten at every meal, but in 50 different ways. The women also created beautiful baskets and clay pots.

Some Southwest Native Americans held religious ceremonies in a special room, called a _____. There, they asked their gods to provide a bountiful harvest. Bring them good health and guide them in tribal matters.

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| Word Bank: | farmers | honor | clay | water | women |
| | deserts | pueblos | kiva | canyons | |

Native Americans of the Northwest Coast

The Native Americans also lived on the northwest coast of North America where the _____ provided plenty of seafood. And the mild temperatures and thick forests made an excellent home. The Tillamook and Haida tribes, lived near the Pacific Ocean in the northwest part of North America. The ocean and forests gave the people more _____ than they needed.

Because they didn't travel much and there were so many trees, the Native Americans of the Northwest built large permanent houses called_____. They used cedar wood and built their houses on the beach.

The Native Americans of the Northwest coast were expert wood_____. They decorated the outside of their houses with paint and beautiful carvings. _____ poles, large carved poles, told stories about families' histories, and important events. And some totem honor great chiefs. Many of these still stand today and tell visitors of the great deeds of the family.

The people of the Northwest coast didn't have to_____. The rivers were full of salmon and the ocean was full of shellfish, whale, and seals. They never ate bread, because they didn't grow corn or grain to make the bread.

The coastal Native Americans like other native people _____ that plants, rocks, and animals had spirits. They also believed that many gods controlled the earth. Their magical religious ceremonies included masked dancers and puppets. Legends and stories were shared around the ceremonial fire.

Summary

Today, we explore the life of Native Americans from the Eastern Woodlands to the Great Plains, and from the deserts of the Southwest to the Northwest coast. We have seen that they all have different_____, different ways of doing things, and different beliefs. But one thing they all had in common, was that they all knew how to live off the land. The homes they built, the food they ate and the clothes they wore all came from the land. Native Americans _____ nature, and valued the gifts they received from the Earth.

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| Word Bank: | carvers | farm | believed | resources | ocean |
| | cultures | respected | Totem | plank houses | |