

LESSON 3 - WHERE'S WINONA?

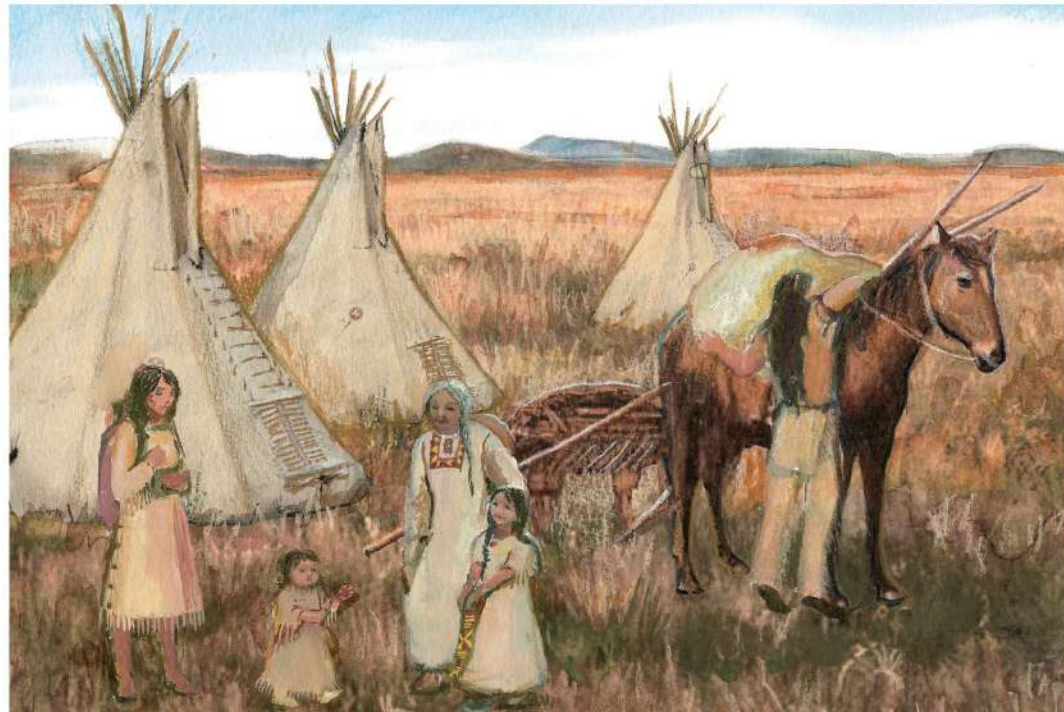
WHERE'S WINONA?

This is Mapiya, a Lakota Sioux girl. Why do you think she looks so happy? Every year Mapiya looks forward to moving with her family to their summer camp. After several days of traveling from their winter camp, they have finally arrived at Mapiya's favorite place. They have moved here to hunt buffalo. While the men hunt for buffalo, Mapiya and her family will live in this special spot with other Lakota Sioux families until the days shorten, signaling fall.



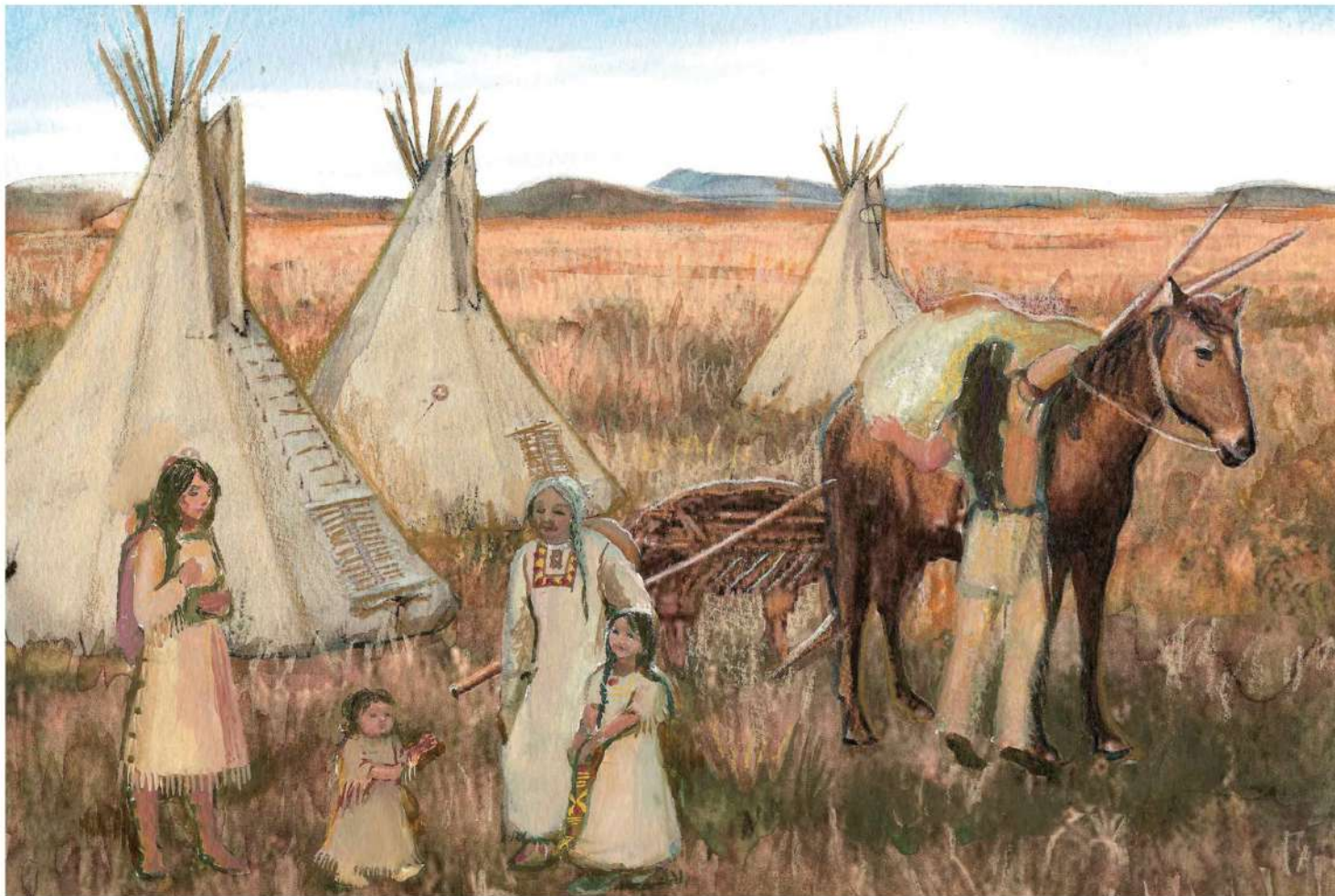
WHERE'S WINONA?

This is Mapiya's family: her mother; her father; her grandmother; her little sister, Tashna [/tosh*no/]; and her baby brother, Chetan [/chae*ton/]. Do you see anything in the picture that is made from buffalo skins? Yes, their clothes and moccasins are made of buffalo skins. And their tipis, or houses, are made from the buffalo, too. *[Point to the tipis in the picture.]* Think how easy it would be to carry your house with you if you lived in a tipi. Tipis are easily taken apart and put back together again.



WHERE'S WINONA?

Look closely at the picture. Do you see the two poles near the horse's head? A frame is connected to the poles behind the horse, forming a travois [/trə*voi/], *[Point to the travois in the picture.]* a type of sled used to pull the family's tipi and other belongings.



WHERE'S WINONA?

What do you see in this picture? Mapiya and her family never stay in one place for long. Lakota Sioux families moved frequently, following the buffalo across the plains.

Mapiya's mother is the one who always packs and unpacks the tipi and belongings. Before leaving the winter camp, Mapiya's mother piled their clothing, blankets, and rugs onto the backs of horses. Many things were loaded onto a travois. Even Grandmother and Tashna rode on a travois! Chetan traveled in a cradleboard on

Mother's back. *A cradleboard is a board that many Native American tribes used to carry babies around. [Point to the cradleboard on the back of the woman on the right side of the image.]*



WHERE'S WINONA?

Mapiya packed her toys into a parfleche [/par*flesh/], a small bag made of buffalo hide. *[Point to the parfleche in the picture.]* She took special care with her doll, Winona, wrapping her up in a little fur blanket before putting her into the parfleche. Mother made Winona for Mapiya. Mother also helped Mapiya sew clothes and little beaded moccasins for the doll. Mapiya loves Winona very much.



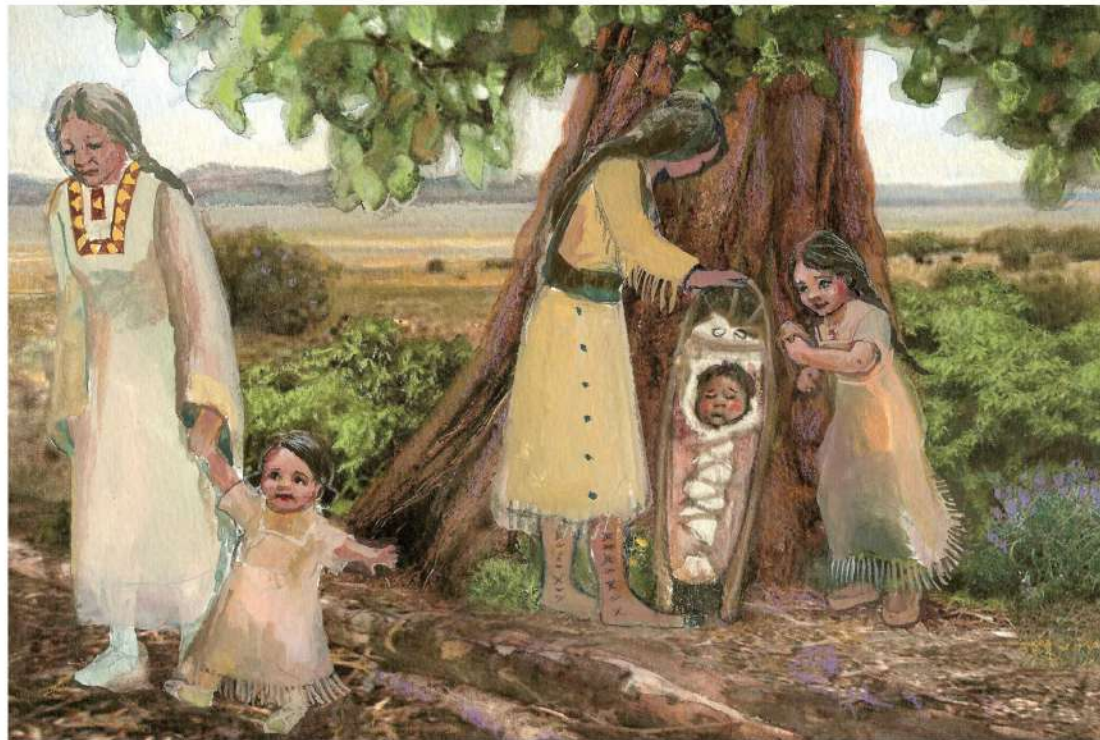
WHERE'S WINONA?

The Lakota Sioux are busy setting up their new summer camp. Their tipis form a circle with all the doorways facing in the same direction— east, away from the strong winds that blow across the plains from the west. They are set up in order of the family's importance. Since the chief is the person in charge of the tribe, his tipi is the most important. Mapiya's father is a respected hunter and warrior, or fighter, so his family's tipi is placed near the chief's.



WHERE'S WINONA?

Mapiya's family will raise its tipi beside some cottonwood trees. Mother leans Chetan's cradleboard against a tree trunk in the shade. He is fast asleep. Mapiya usually has to watch over little Tashna, but today Grandmother will look after her. She will take her over to visit Mapiya's aunt because her tipi has been raised already. Mapiya is glad to be given a break. Tashna is always **getting into mischief!** *Getting into mischief means getting into trouble for doing something naughty or against the rules.*



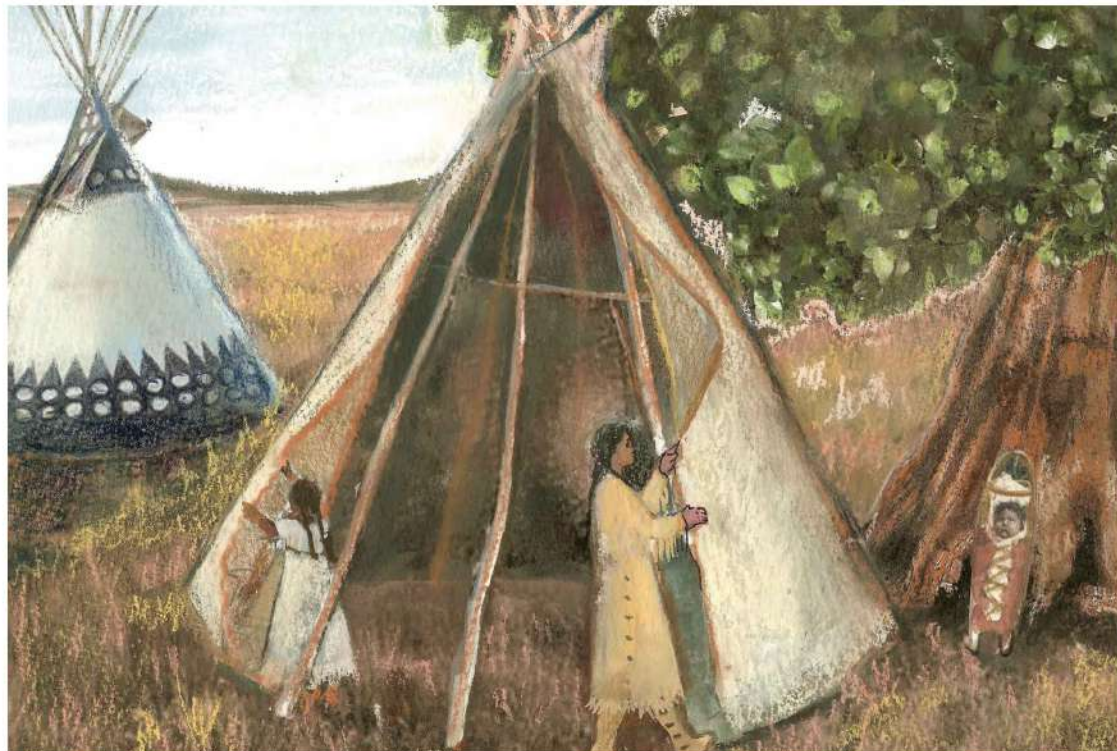
WHERE'S WINONA?

Mother starts raising the tipi's frame with its long, thin, wooden poles. To build the tipi, Mother ties three poles together. Using a long rope, she pulls them upright to form the shape of a triangle. This makes a strong base. Then she adds more poles to the frame, leaning them against the notch formed by the three poles at the top.



WHERE'S WINONA?

The tipi cover is attached to the last pole. Lifting that pole up at the back of the tipi, Mother leans it onto the other poles. Then Mapiya helps her pull the cover around the poles, making the walls of the tipi. They join the two sides of the cover with pegs, leaving an opening for the doorway under the last peg. During the hot summer months, they will roll the tipi cover up from the bottom to let in air. The smoke hole at the top of the tipi can be opened and closed too, allowing smoke to escape or air to flow in.



WHERE'S WINONA?

At last the tipi is completed. Mapiya thinks about her own toy tipi. She wants to set it up for her doll, Winona. Mapiya took the toy tipi apart before packing it and will put it together again just as her mother did with the family's tipi. By copying her mother in her play, Mapiya learns how to do things she will have to do when she is a grown-up.



WHERE'S WINONA?

Mapiya finds the parfleche in which she packed her toys lying open on the ground. She reaches inside and pulls out the soft deerskin tipi cover and little wooden poles. Winona's little fur blanket is there too. But Winona is not inside the blanket. Mapiya pulls everything out of the bag. No Winona!



WHERE'S WINONA?

Worried, Mapiya searches through the other bags. But her doll is not inside any of them. Did Winona fall out of the bag while the family was traveling here? Is the little doll lost in the long grass that covers the plains? So much grass! Such a long trip! If Winona fell out along the way, how will Mapiya find her?



WHERE'S WINONA?

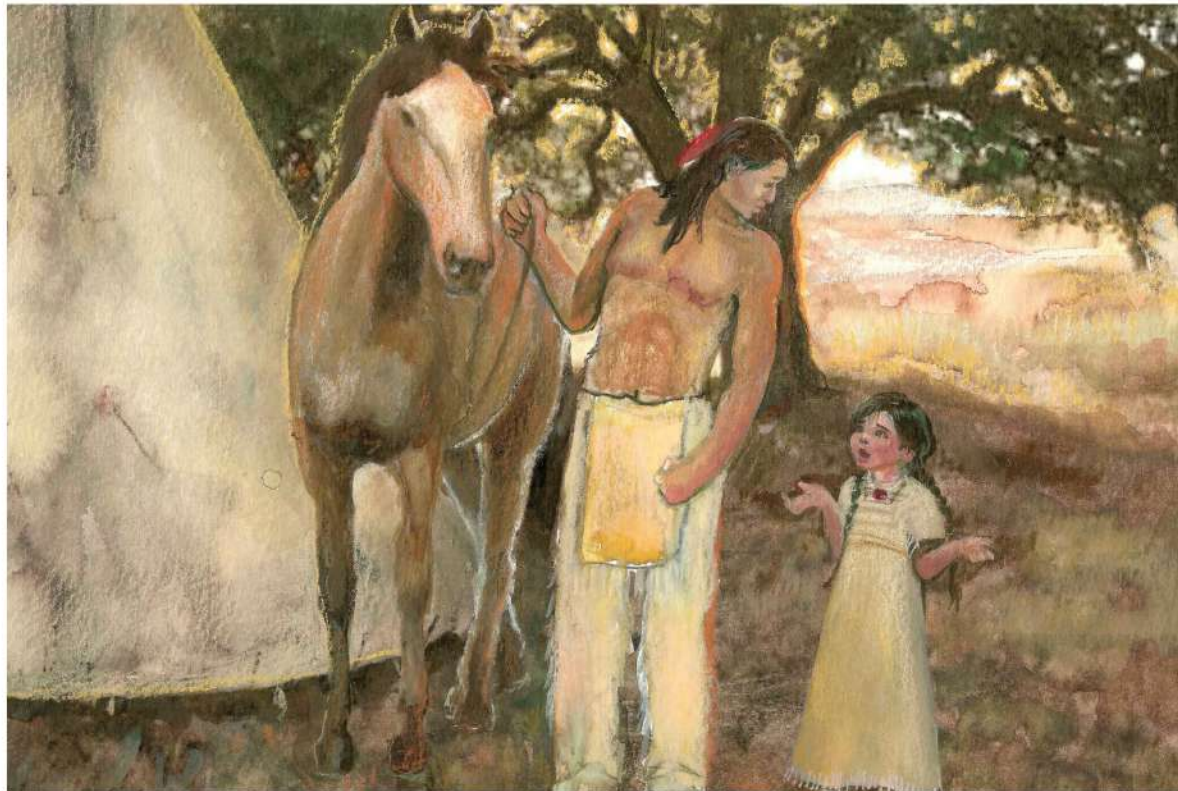
Mapiya's father finds her searching for Winona in the long grass.

"Have you seen my doll?" Mapiya asks him.

"No," he answers.

"I found my parfleche open. Maybe Winona fell out along the way!"

"Don't worry," Father says. "I was the one who took all the parfleches off the horses when we got here. None of them were open. Your doll could not have fallen out along the way."



WHERE'S WINONA?

Mapiya joins her mother, who has made a fire and is starting to cook. Father tightens his bow as Chetan continues to sleep. "Mother, have you seen Winona?" asks Mapiya. "No," says Mother. "I haven't seen your doll."



WHERE'S WINONA?

Just then Chetan wakes up and starts to cry. Of all the family, Mapiya is the best at getting Chetan to stop crying. She goes over to the tree, makes a silly face, and sticks out her tongue. Chetan stops crying. He laughs and laughs.



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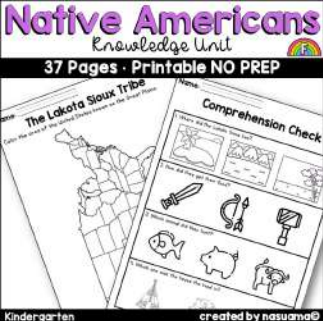
And that's when Mapiya sees them! *Do you see what Mapiya sees?* Two little beaded moccasins poking upside down from the cradleboard! She tugs hard. Out come the legs, then the dress, then the arms and head of Winona! Mapiya gives Winona a big hug. Mapiya asks, "How did you get in there, silly girl?"



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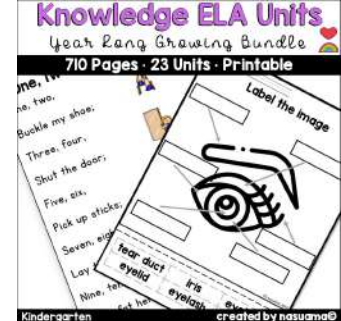
At that moment, Tashna toddles over from Auntie's tipi, with Grandmother trying her best to keep up. Tashna sees the doll. "Nona!" she exclaims. She pulls Winona out of Mapiya's hand and sticks the doll back inside Chetan's cradleboard. "Now I know who did it!" says Mapiya. "It was Little Sister!" "You are right, Mapiya!" says Mother. "I suppose tomorrow I will have to make Tashna a doll of her own."





NATIVE AMERICANS

BUNDLE



Name: _____

The Lakota Sioux

Decorate the clothes from this tribe.

The drawing shows a man on the left wearing a large feathered headdress and a woman on the right wearing a headband with a feather. Both are wearing traditional tunics. Below the main drawing, there are separate line drawings of the man's leggings and the woman's skirt, intended for coloring. The bottom right corner of the drawing area contains the text '(C) nasuama, 2022'.

DO YOU NEED EXTRA ACTIVITIES?