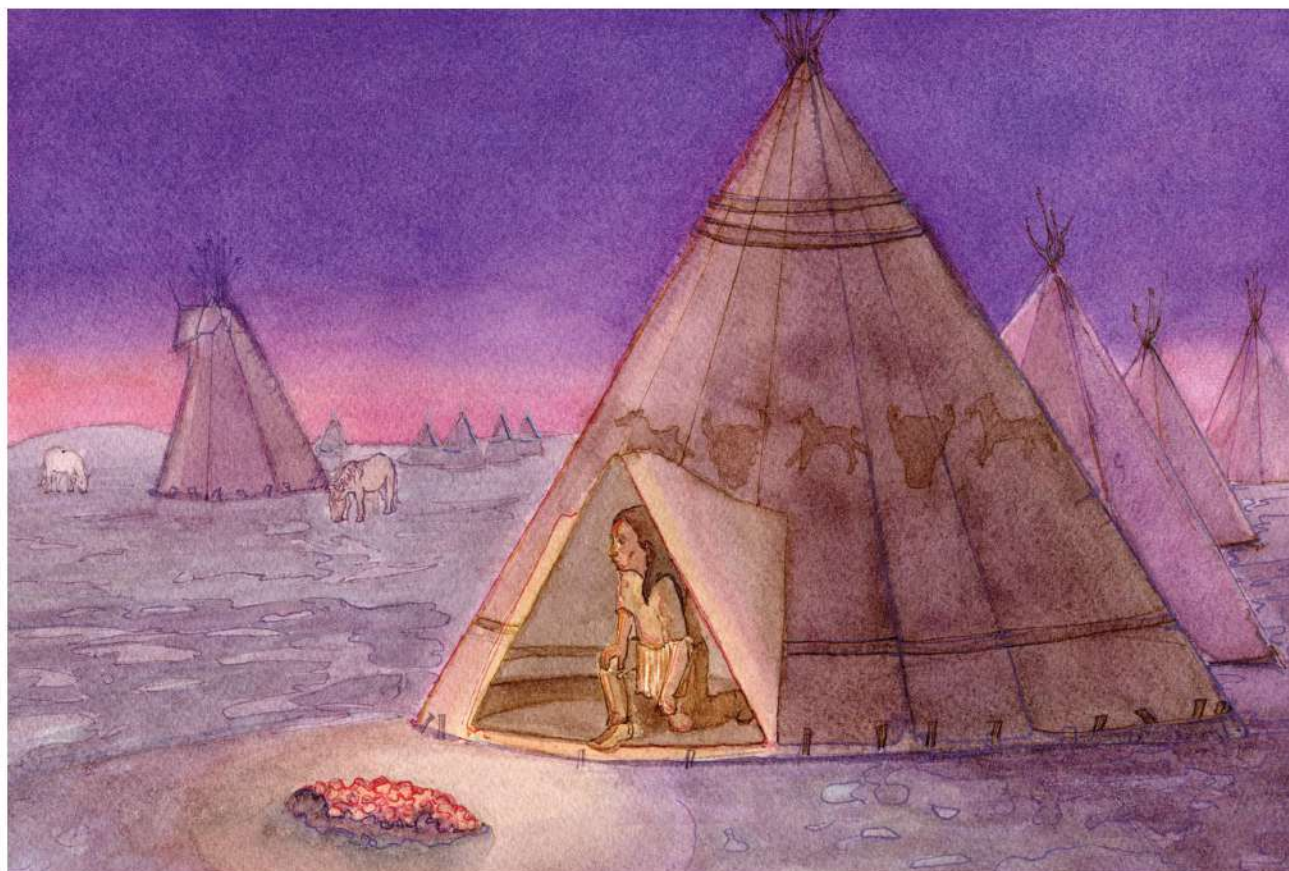


# LESSON 4 - LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

*[Point to the tipi in the foreground.] Who remembers what this Lakota Sioux home is called?*

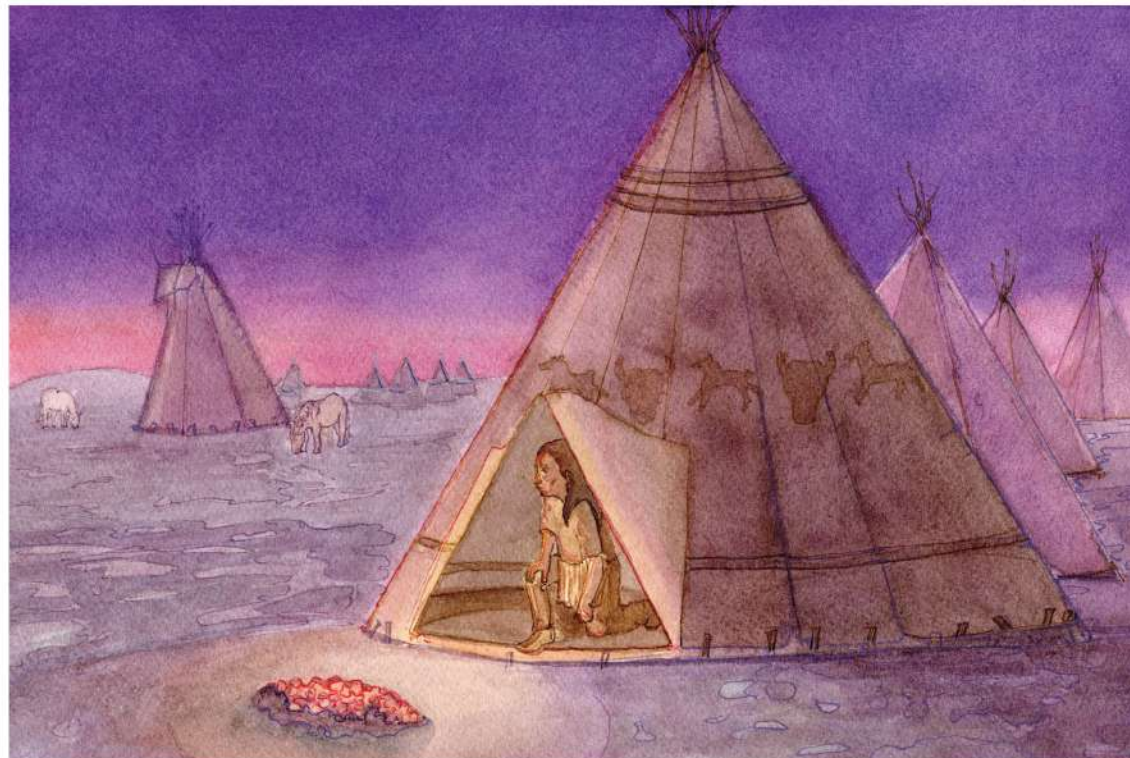
Little Bear woke up before the sun did. Today was a very important day. Now that Little Bear was ten years old, he would be allowed to hunt the buffalo. Little Bear was not frightened. He was excited, even though a buffalo can weigh as much as ten grown men.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Little Bear was a Lakota Sioux Indian. He lived on the Great Plains with his family. This area, called a plain, was fairly flat and was filled with grass and buffalo. *Here the word plain describes a part of the United States where the land is flat and has lots of grass but very few trees.* His home was wherever his family and their group of relatives placed their tipis, and that depended on the buffalo. So where Little Bear and his family lived depended on the buffalo. *What does that mean?*





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

The buffalo lived on the Great Plains, too. However, large herds of buffalo moved from place to place. They moved as they grazed on the wild grasses that grow across this wide stretch of land.

Because the buffalo was their main food supply, the Lakota Sioux moved with the herds. *During what season did the Lakota Sioux hunt buffalo? (summer)*

The buffalo provided Little Bear's people with fresh meat. The meat could also be dried and turned into pemmican. Pemmican could be stored for later use, especially in the cold winter months.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

In fact, almost every part of the buffalo had a special use for Little Bear's people. The buffalo provided them with warm fur. Its hair was used to make rope. Buffalo bones were used to make knives, axes, and hammers. Even toys were made from the bones of a buffalo.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Buffalo skin was also used to make tipis, clothes, bedding, and moccasins. Making these things was a job for women and girls. When he was younger, Little Bear had watched his grandmother, mother, and sisters while they worked.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

In using the hide of the buffalo to make clothing, it first had to be stretched and scraped. Then it was soaked and dried several times. After that, it was pulled and stretched to make it soft. *[Point to the stretched hide in the image.]* Finally, *or lastly* it was ready to be cut and sewn into the things Little Bear's people needed. Little Bear's sister had made him his first pair of moccasins, which were made more beautiful with the addition of attractive beading art.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Little Bear dressed quickly and then stepped outside of his family tipi. The rising sun was now just a faint glimmer on the horizon. *The horizon is the place off in the distance where the land seems to meet the sky.* Even without the sun, it was already warm. Little Bear looked around. No one else had woken up yet. He was the only one, and this made the day seem even more important. Little Bear sniffed the air the way his grandfather did. He could not smell rain. He could smell the remains of the fires that had burned the night before. Buffalo meat had been cooked on those fires. Little Bear could still taste the succulent meat. *Succulent means very juicy and tasty.*





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Little Bear made his way to where the horses that chased the buffalo grazed. Today he would ride his brother's horse when he went hunting. He would also carry a bow and arrow. His father had crafted his bow and arrow for him, though Little Bear had helped to shape the arrow tip.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Hunting the buffalo was not easy. These animals could run like the wind. It often took several men to take down one buffalo. Little Bear hoped that he would be brave. He wanted his father to be proud of him, the way he was proud of Little Bear's older brother.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Little Bear stroked his brother's horse and whispered to him. He asked the horse to help him catch the buffalo. The horse nuzzled Little Bear as he spoke to him. Little Bear laughed as the horse's mane tickled his nose.



# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Before long, the sun began to rise. Little Bear noticed that other people had woken up and were emerging from their tipis. He saw his mother begin to breathe life back into their fire. She, along with his sisters, would prepare food for the hunting party. *A hunting party is a group of people who go out together to hunt.* Then it would be time to go.





# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

Little Bear made his way back to his tipi. He sat on the ground beside his mother. His mother smiled at him and tousled his hair. "You will be a brave buffalo hunter just like your brother," Little Bear's mother said to him.

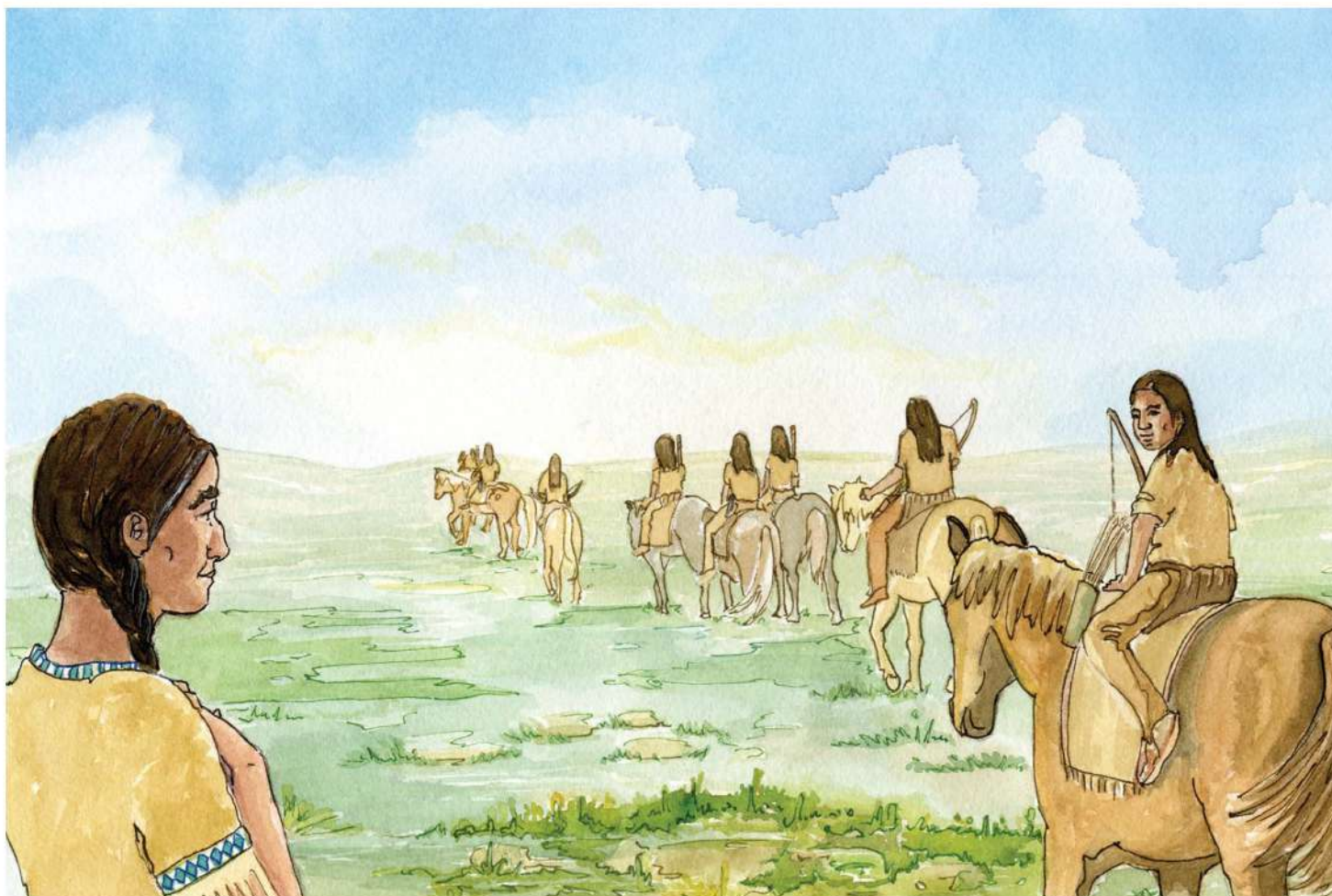
Little Bear smiled at his mother. He knew she was wise and kind. He loved her very much.

Before long, Little Bear was joined by his grandfather, father, and brother. When all the men were gathered around the fire, Little Bear's mother and sisters served them buffalo stew. It tasted good.



# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

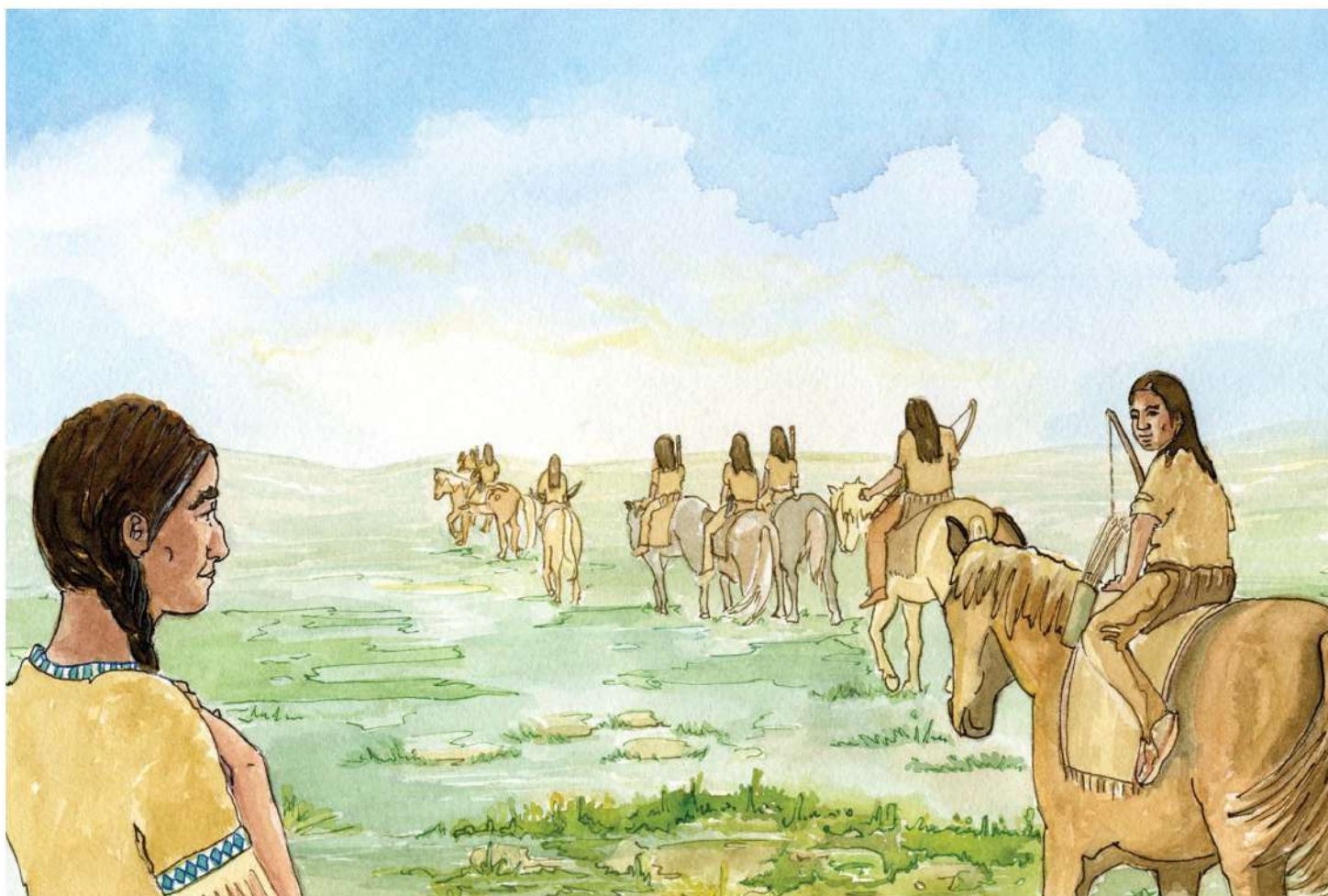
Then it was time to go. The men and boys, including Little Bear, mounted their horses. As they rode out of their village, Little Bear looked back at his mother. She was still standing by the fire. She smiled at him, and then she put her hand on her heart.

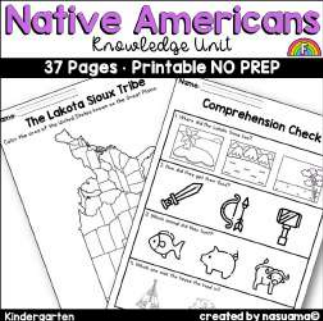




# LITTLE BEAR GOES HUNTING

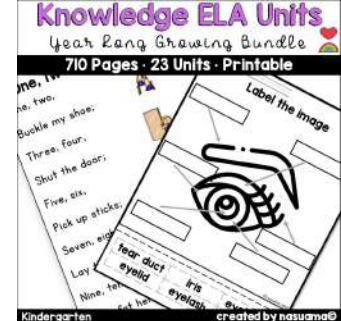
“She is telling me I will be a brave hunter,” said Little Bear to himself. With that thought in mind, Little Bear smiled at his mother and then galloped off to hunt the buffalo for the very first time.





# NATIVE AMERICANS

# BUNDLE



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Little Bear

Little Bear was ten years old.

He was a Lakota Sioux Indian.

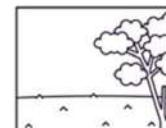
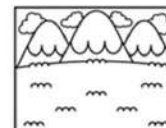
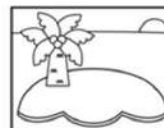
They hunted buffalo.

It was his first time hunting.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Comprehension Check

1. Where did the Lakota Sioux live?



2. How did they get their food?



3. Which animal did they hunt?



# DO YOU NEED EXTRA ACTIVITIES?

buffalo herd.

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