

Introduction to Native Americans

For the next several days you will be learning about Native Americans. Native Americans were the first-known people to live on the continents of North and South America.

Introduction to Native Americans

Another term for Native American is American Indian. Although we use the terms Native American or American Indian when we talk about them, there are many, many different groups of Native Americans.

Introduction to Native Americans

These groups are called tribes. Each group, or tribe, has its own way of eating, dressing, and living, depending on where they live in North or South America.

Introduction to Native Americans

Today you are going to hear about many Native American tribes, but over the next several days you will hear about three in particular: the Lakota Sioux, the Wampanoag, and the Lenape (lun-NAtt-pay).

Introduction to Native Americans

Listen to find out what the different tribes of Native Americans wore, what they are, and what kinds of houses they lived in.

Introduction to Native Americans



Long, long ago--long before you and I can remember--long before your grandparents can remember, there were no people living on the land where we live today.

Introduction to Native Americans



*There were woods and
plains, but no people.*

Introduction to Native Americans



There were rivers and lakes, but no people.

Introduction to Native Americans



There were deserts and mountains, but no people.

A desert is a large, dry area of land that gets very little rain.

Introduction to Native Americans



*There were plenty of birds
and fish,*

Introduction to Native Americans



and animals and insects...but there were no people. But that was thousands of years ago, much earlier than any of us can remember.

Introduction to Native Americans



The first known people who lived in America, called Native Americans or American Indians, lived in all parts of the continent. Some lived in the desert. Others lived in the mountains. Some lived in the woods. And others lived on the coast, near the ocean.

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*The coast is the land
next to the ocean or sea.*

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People of the desert lived very differently from coastal people. Can you guess why that would be?

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You are going to learn about some of the different ways America's first-known people, or Native Americans, lived.

Introduction to Native Americans



The Native Americans of long ago all needed the same things we need today. They needed food and water to stay alive. They needed shelter--places to protect themselves from the weather and wild animals--and they needed clothing to keep themselves warm and dry.

Introduction to Native Americans



*So, what did the
Native Americans
need to live?*

Introduction to Native Americans



But the food the desert people ate was not the same kind of food the coastal people ate. And the houses that protected people in the woods did not look the same as the houses of those who lived in the desert.

Introduction to Native Americans



Some lived in tipis.

Introduction to Native Americans



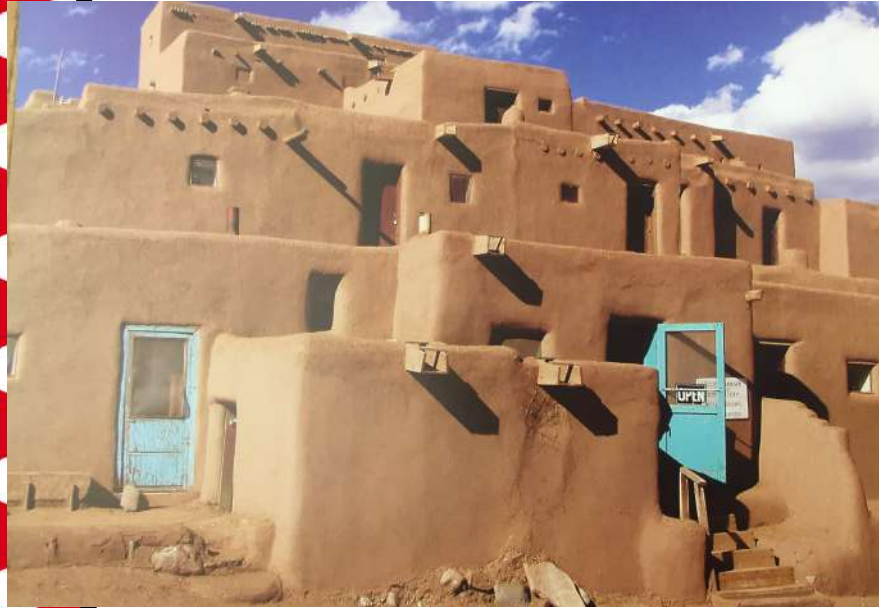
Some lived in wetus.
(WEE-toos)

Introduction to Native Americans

Some lived in hogans.



Introduction to Native Americans



Some lived in pueblos.

Introduction to Native Americans

*And others lived in
longhouses.*



Introduction to Native Americans



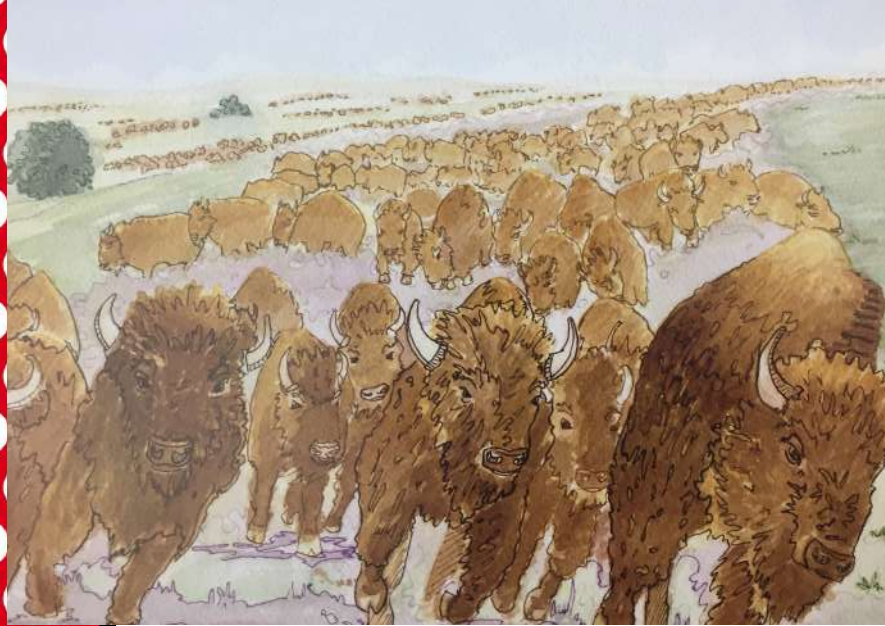
Native Americans of long ago had to rely on their knowledge of nature--of the earth, the plants, and the animals that surrounded them. And everywhere they roamed or wandered, these Native Americans found ways to borrow, or use, from the earth all that they needed to live.

Introduction to Native Americans



*Some Native Americans
grew their own vegetables
and fruit.*

Introduction to Native Americans



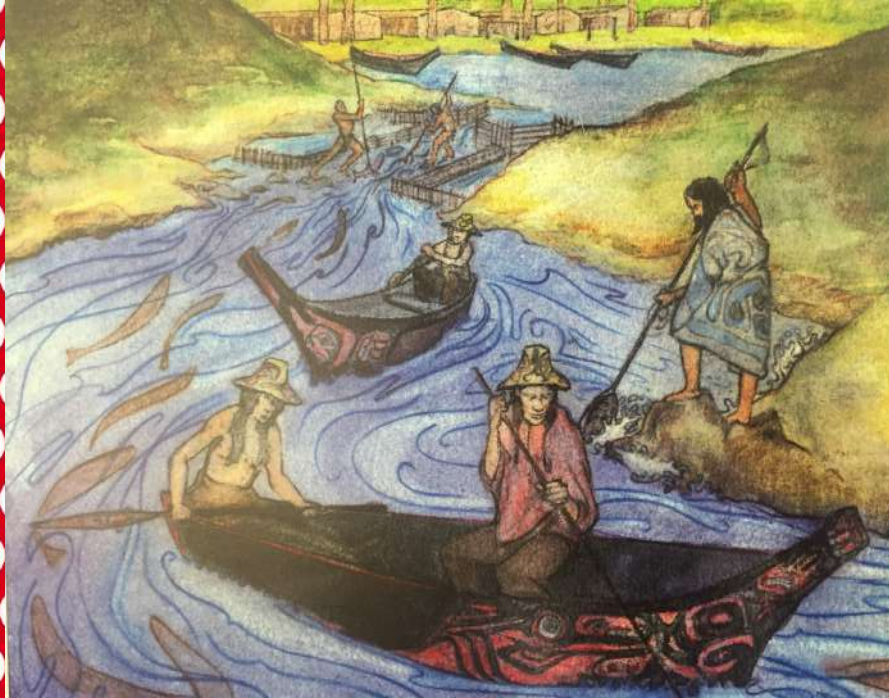
Others hunted buffalo.

Introduction to Native Americans



*Some Native Americans
hunted woodland animals.*

Introduction to Native Americans



Others caught fish from rivers, lakes, and oceans.

Introduction to Native Americans



*Some Native Americans
cooked their food over an
open fire.*

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Others baked food in specially made ovens.

So what were the different ways the Native Americans of long ago got their food?

Introduction to Native Americans

The Native Americans also needed water. But there were no sinks with running water inside their homes. So, where do you think the Native Americans found water long ago?

Introduction to Native Americans

Native Americans collected rainwater. They also got their water from lakes, rivers, and streams.

Introduction to Native Americans

Native Americans of long ago did not have cars and trucks. There were no buses, or trains, or planes. So do you remember how they got around?

Introduction to Native Americans



Long ago, Native Americans traveled by foot. There were no paved roads. Native American paths were made by the pounding of their own footsteps and the hooves of animal herds.

Introduction to Native Americans



After Native Americans were here for many years, they started riding horses. After that, some traveled on horseback.

Introduction to Native Americans

And others traveled in canoes.



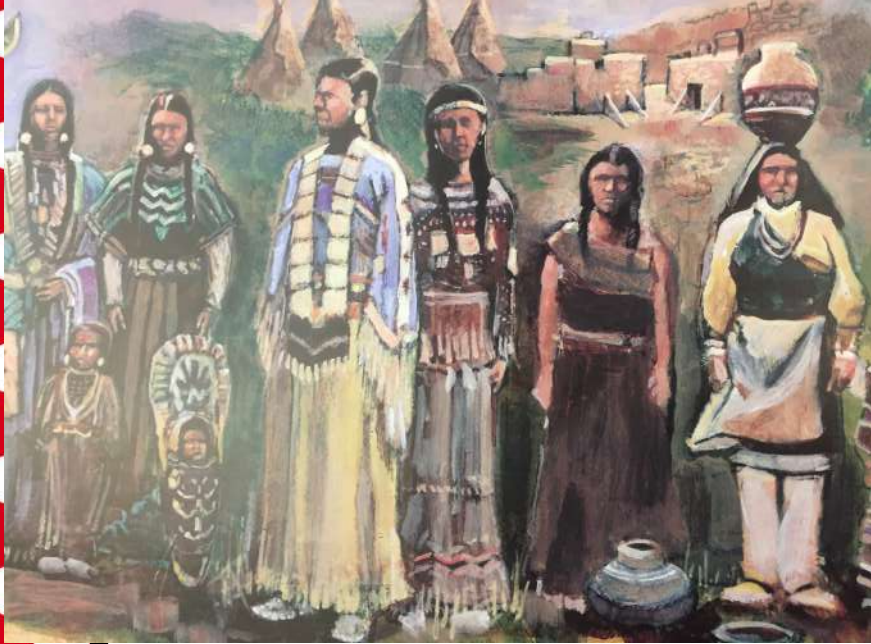
Introduction to Native Americans

Those who lived in the woods used their feet to make their way through thick forests of trees. After many years, those who lived on open plains welcomed the speed of horses to carry them long distances.

Introduction to Native Americans

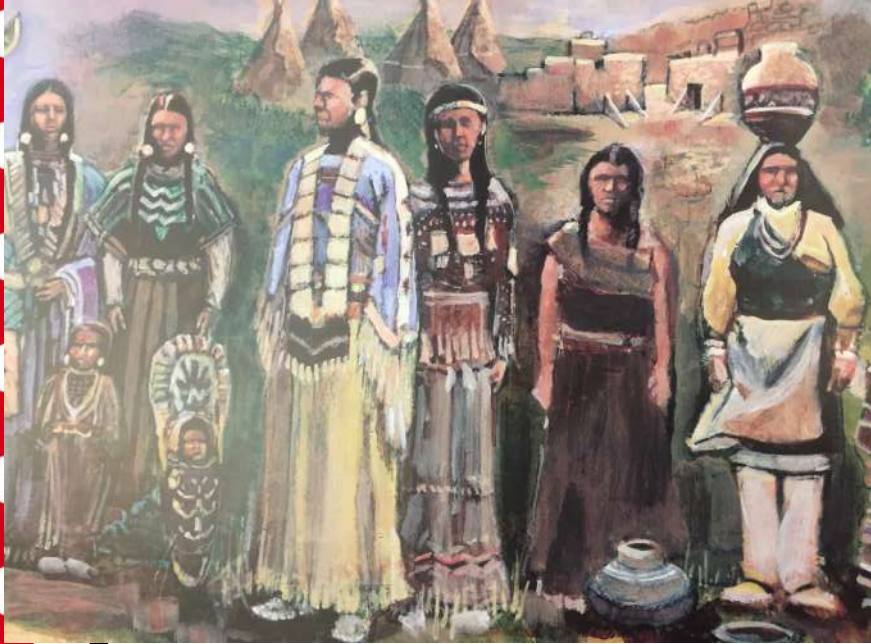
*And those who lived near lakes and rivers
relied upon canoes to carry them across
the waters.*

Introduction to Native Americans



No matter where they lived, Native Americans made all of their own clothes. Some Native Americans made all of their own clothes. Some Native American women and girls wore skirts and dresses.

Introduction to Native Americans



Men and boys often wore breechcloths and leggings. They used materials from the surroundings to make their clothes.

Introduction to Native Americans



Some Native Americans wore clothing made of animal skins--elk, deer, buffalo, and rabbit. They often decorated their clothing with beads, porcupine quills, and fringe.

Introduction to Native Americans



During the cold winter months, they wore coats of animal fur to stay warm. Others wore clothes made from the soft, inner bark of the cedar tree, sometimes decorated with seashells.

Introduction to Native Americans



Still others wore clothing made of fibers from different plants--cotton and yucca--and trimmed them with animal bones. In winter, they covered themselves with cloaks to stay warm.

Introduction to Native Americans



Many men, women, boys, and girls in each of the Native American tribes across the land--from the oceans to the plains to the woods--wore moccasins on their feet.

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Tribes are groups of similar people who speak the same language, have the same laws, and have the same customs or traditions. They also have the same ancestors, such as great-great-grandparents.

Introduction to Native Americans

Some, however preferred bare feet.

Introduction to Native Americans



And so, you see, the people who first came to live on this rich and varied land that we now call the United States of America were just as rich and varied as the land itself. They were alike in some ways and different in other ways, just as the people of America are today.

Introduction to Native Americans

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Who did you hear about in this read aloud?

Introduction to Native Americans

Comprehension Questions:

Literal

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

What three things do all people, including the Native Americans, need to live?

Introduction to Native Americans

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

Did all of the Native Americans of long ago find food in the same way? Did they live in the same kinds of houses?

Introduction to Native Americans

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

How did Native Americans of long ago get their food?

Introduction to Native Americans

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

How did Native Americans of long ago get water?

Introduction to Native Americans

Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

*How did Native Americans of long ago use to
make clothes?*

Introduction to Native Americans

Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

PLEASE answer in
COMPLETE sentences.

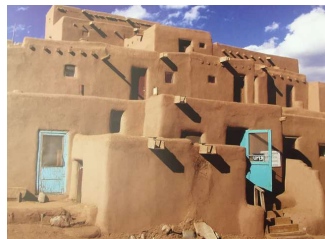
Describe one type of Native American clothing that you would want to wear if you were living among the Native Americans long ago.

Think Pair. Share



Evaluative:

Which of the different types of Native American houses would you want to live in if you lived among the Native Americans long ago?



Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

Introduction to Native Americans

*In the read aloud you heard, “Native Americans needed **shelter**--places to protect them from the weather and wild animals--and they needed clothing to keep themselves warm and dry.”*

*Say the word **shelter** with me.
Whisper fruit to the ceiling.
Whisper fruit to your neighbor.
Let's clap it out.*

Introduction to Native Americans

A **shelter** is something that protects you from the weather or from danger.

The two friends used the tree as a shelter when it began to rain.

Introduction to Native Americans

What other kinds of things could you use as a **shelter**? Try to use the word shelter when you talk about it.

“A _____ could be used as a shelter.”

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*What's the word we have been talking
about?*

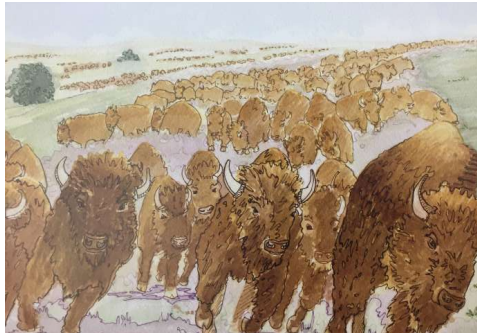
Let's clap it out.

Introduction to Native Americans



Thumbs Up = Shelter

Thumbs Down = Not a shelter



Buffalo



Introduction to Native Americans



Thumbs Up = Shelter

Thumbs Down = Not a shelter



Tipi



Introduction to Native Americans



Thumbs Up = Shelter

Thumbs Down = Not a shelter



Wetu



Introduction to Native Americans



Thumbs Up = Shelter

Thumbs Down = Not a shelter



Moccasins



Introduction to Native Americans



Thumbs Up = Shelter

Thumbs Down = Not a shelter



Pueblo

