

Name: Key Date Issued: \_\_\_\_\_



## Migration to the Americas - SS Chapter 1 Lesson 1

The Ice Age is a long period of extreme cold when low temperatures cause large areas of Earth's water to freeze.

These large sheets of ice are glaciers. The Bering Strait is a narrow stretch of water that separates Asia from North America. This area became shallow and the land under the water was exposed, forming a land bridge that

linked Asia to North America. People migrated, or moved to

the Americas between 40,000 & 10,000 years ago. A theory is a possible explanation. Perhaps large animals like mammoths and



caribou began to cross the land bridge, which hunters followed for food. These hunters followed food all through North America and adapted or changed their ways of living to meet the challenges of the new environment.

The earliest people in the Americas lived in small bands or groups of people. They depended on the herds of animals for food and clothing. They would follow the animals until the meat ran out. They built temporary homes because they moved often. The early people made tools like knives,

spear heads, & hand axes from stone and animal bone. The reason we know about these early people is from the items left behind or

artifacts that are dug up by scientists who study these items, known as Archaeologists.

Around 10,000 years ago the Ice Age came to an end as the climate became warmer. Some of the large animals became extinct due to the change in

climate. Since the large animals were no longer available, people began to hunt small animals and fish. They were also known as hunters & gatherers because in addition to hunting, they also gathered berries, nuts, and veggies.

About 7,000 years ago, people began to grow food & plant seeds known as agriculture. This made it possible for people to settle in one place and become members of a community.