

Unit 2: American Indians



ONLINE RESOURCES

CLASS WEBSITE:

<https://mryoungtms.weebly.com/american-indians.html>

QUIZLET GAMES:

<https://quizlet.com/join/MsfYy94T5>

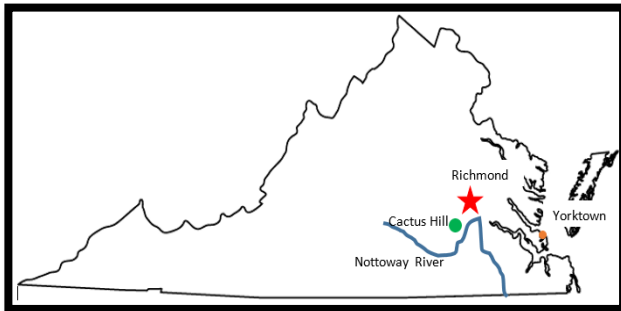
Early People

Learning about Early People

The Earliest people of North America left no recorded (written) history of how they lived. Much of what we know about them comes from the artifacts they left behind. An artifact is any object made or used by people in the past.

Artifacts can provide important evidence about past cultures, or ways of life. The study of past cultures is called archaeology. To study human behavior and to learn about past cultures, archaeologists recover buried artifacts. From artifacts such as spear points, archaeologists can figure out how people hunted or fought. Shovels, needles, or other tools provide scientists with clues about how people grew food or made products.

When removing artifacts from an archaeological site, archaeologists generally dig in layers. Artifacts discovered nearest to the surface belonged to people who lived at the site more recently. Older objects are found in deeper layers. By comparing artifacts from different times, archaeologists can infer how cultures have changed or remained the same.



Cactus Hill

Cactus Hill is one of the oldest sites where early people lived in North America. It is located on the banks of the Nottoway River, south of Richmond, in southeastern Virginia.

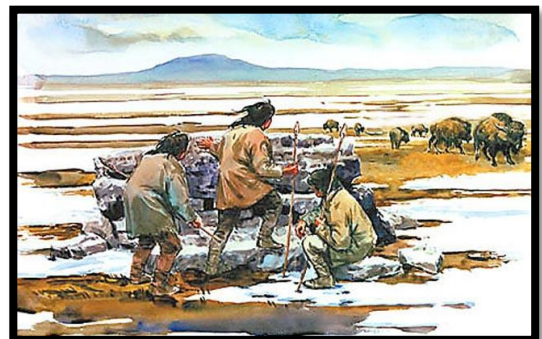
At Cactus Hill, archaeologists have found artifacts such as spear points and cutting blades. Some of the artifacts may be 15,000 to 18,000 years old. Because of this discovery, archaeologists now believe that people inhabited North America earlier than previously thought.

The Earliest Americans

Thousands of years ago, Earth's climate was much different from that of today. There were several periods of freezing cold, known as Ice Ages. During these Ice Ages, much of Earth's water was frozen in glaciers. As a result, the water level of the oceans dropped. At times a "bridge" of dry land surfaced between Asia and North America.

For many years, archaeologists believe that people first arrived in North America by crossing that land bridge about 12,000 years ago. However, discoveries at Cactus Hill suggest that people already inhabited North America long before other groups crossed the land bridge.

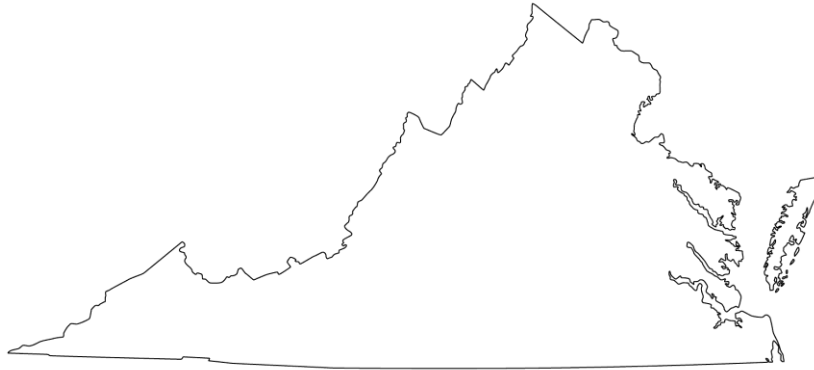
Today, archaeologists have more evidence, but they still disagree about when and how the first people arrived in North America. Some early groups may have followed coastal land routes near the oceans. Others may have traveled by boat traveling from island to island. At this time, there is no definite answer as to how or when the first people arrived in North America.



Early People (continued)

Directions: Use your notes to answer the following questions.

1. Complete the map below.
 - a. Place a dot to mark the location of Cactus Hill and label the dot.
 - b. Draw a star to mark the location of Richmond, VA (state capital). Label the star.
 - c. Draw a line to represent the Nottaway River. Label the river.



2. Describe the location of Cactus Hill using words. Include the area of Virginia (VA) and the river.
3. Define archaeology in your own words.
4. Why do you think archaeology is important?
5. What did scientists find at this site and why is it important?
6. How do scientists believe the first people arrived in North America?

Location, Climate, and Environment of American Indians

Annotating Key:

Area Lived/Inhabited/Homeland

Climate

Geographic Features

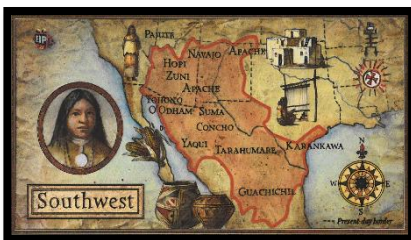
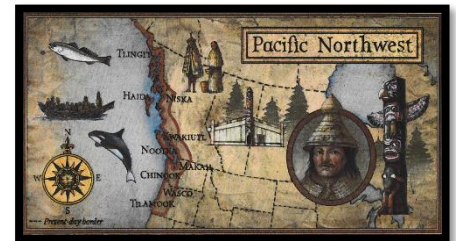


Inuit

The **Inuit** Indians lived in the Arctic region of North America. The Arctic region extends from Alaska across northern Canada to Greenland. Temperatures in these Arctic areas are below freezing much of the year. Much of the land is tundra, a cold dry region where trees cannot grow.

Kwakiutl

The homeland of the **Kwakiutl** Indians includes the Pacific Northwest Coast in the Coastal Range Region of North America. Pacific Ocean breezes cause tall trees to grow in thick forests. The climate in this area is mild. Winds of the ocean bring a lot of moisture from the ocean. As much as 100 inches of rain can fall each year.



Pueblo

The Pueblo peoples and other American Indian groups in the Southwest lived mostly in what is now Arizona and New Mexico. The Southwest region differed from other parts of North America. Its rough and rocky landscape includes deserts, mountains, cliffs, and canyons. The Southwest has intense summer heat, bitter winter cold and little rainfall or snow.

Lakota

The Lakota people and other Plains tribes lived on the vast grasslands of the Great Plains region between the Mississippi River and Rocky Mountains. This region has hot summers and long, cold winters with very little rainfall. The land is covered by huge areas of grasslands, rolling hills, and flowing streams.



Iroquois

The homeland of the **Iroquois** Indians includes the northeastern part of North America called the Eastern Woodland. Thick forests, mountains, hills, rivers, lakes, and streams cover this area. It has cold winters with snow and warm summers with plenty of rain.

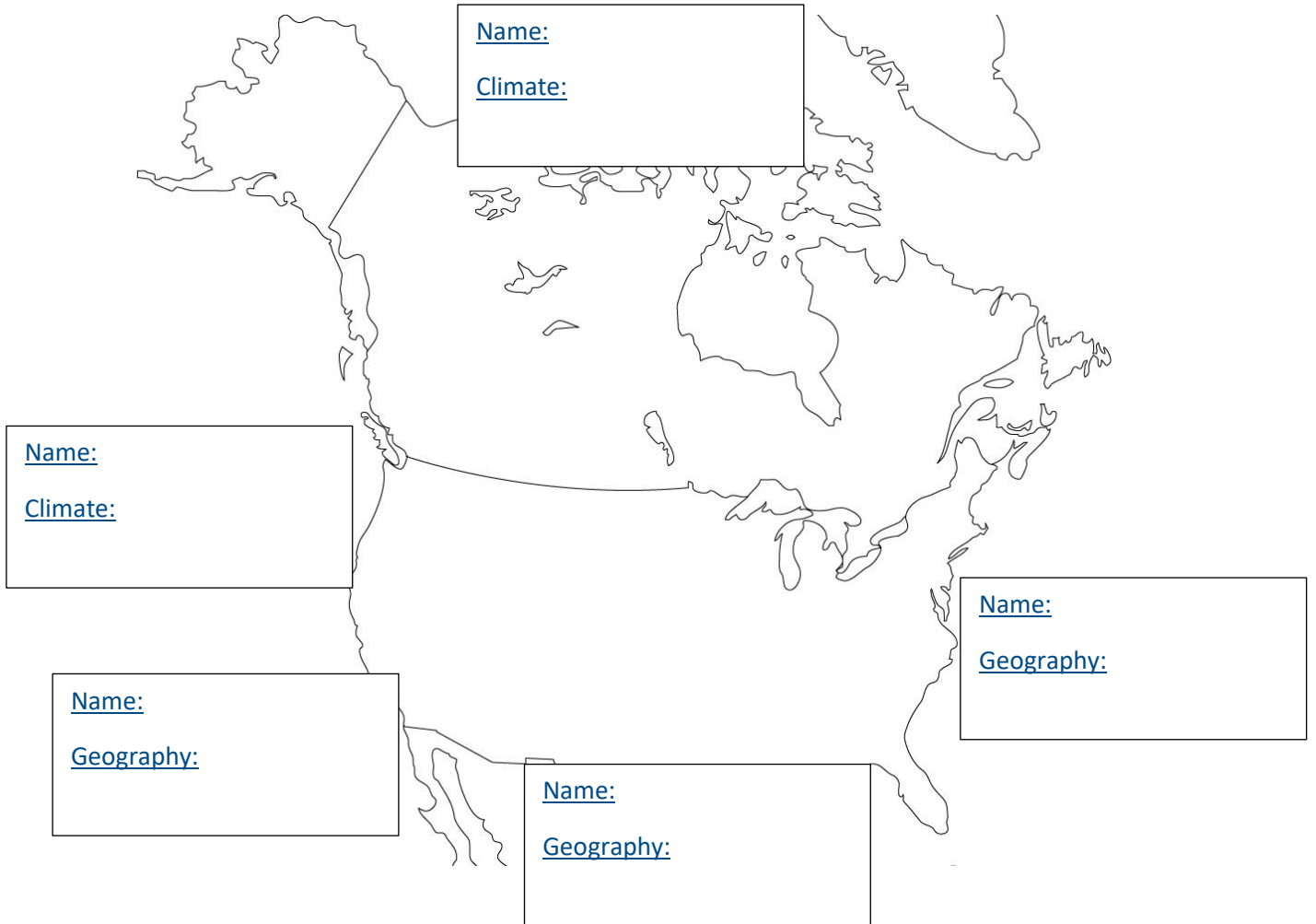
Today

Today, people of all tribes live throughout North America. Some live in their homeland where their ancestors lived. Other have migrated to all parts of North America.

Mapping American Indian Homeland

Directions:

1. Color each American Indian tribe location a different color.
2. Make a map key in the space provided.
3. Label each area and describe the geography or environment.



Map Legend:

Blank space for creating a map key.

Using Resources

Both geography and climate affected how American Indian groups met their basic needs for food, shelter, and clothing. Because American Indians lived in different environments, they had different resources available to them. These resources influenced what products were produced and how they were produced.

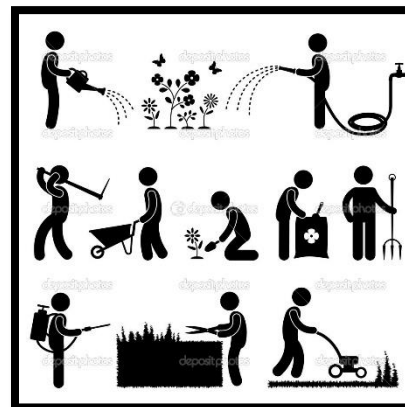
Natural Resources

Natural resources are materials that come directly from nature. In the past, American Indians depended on the natural resources in their environment to meet their basic needs. For food, they gathered plants, nuts, and berries, and they hunted animals and fished in rivers and oceans. Some American Indians also grew crops for food. They made clothing and tools from animal skins and bones. They build shelters from wood, stones, sod, clay, or animal skins.



Human Resources

Human resources are the workers who produce goods or provide services. Early American Indians who fished, made clothing, hunted animals, and did other tasks for a tribe were human resources. Some workers gathered natural resources such as wood or water. Others transported goods and resources to other tribes for trade. By working together as a group, members of a tribe could make better use of their resources.

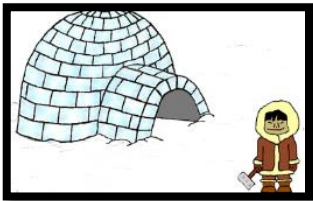


Capital Resources

Capital resources are goods that are produced to make other goods or to provide services. Tools, canoes, bows, spears, and weirs were examples of early capital resources. A weir is a fence-like barrier used to trap fish. Many of these early capital resources were made from wood, stone, or animal parts. Spear points were made from flint, a kind of stone. Bones and antlers were sharpened into tools. Other animal parts were used to make thread and containers.



American Indians Use of Resources

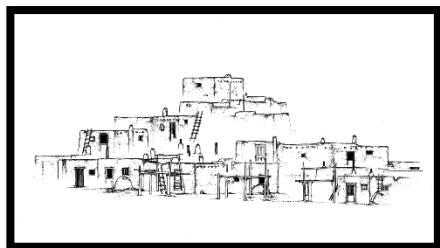


Inuit

Inuit lives depended on the animals that lived in this region. They followed the roaming herds of caribou, seals, fish, and migrating birds such as ducks and geese. These animals were their main source of food and were also used for clothing and shelter. Their homes were often a simple lean-to made out of animal skins and plant materials or igloo structures made out of ice and snow.

Kwakiutl

The land of the **Kwakiutl** was covered by vast forests of giant cedar trees and abundant rivers, streams and springs. The men hunted deer and moose in the forests, but their main source of food was fish and seals from the rivers, streams, and ocean. The women gathered shellfish and berries to add to their diet. Many Kwakiutls lived in longhouses also known as plank houses. Plank houses were similar to the longhouse except they were taller. The houses and canoes were made from cedar wood. Their clothing was made mainly using animal skins and furs, but they also made many articles of clothing from the bark of the cedar trees.



Pueblo

The **Pueblo** men hunted wild animals like deer, rabbits, antelope and bear for food, while women and children collected wild berries. They raised corn, beans, and squash. Their homes were built out of a mixture of sun-dried earth and straw called adobe. Many of their pueblos, or villages, were located on the flat tops of mesas, which were elevated areas of land with a flat top, or in natural caves located on the steep sides of canyon walls. The clothes of the Pueblos were made of leather, fur, and cotton.

Lakota

The **Lakota** hunted buffalo and antelope, grew crops such as maize, beans, and pumpkins, and gathered wild berries and fruits. Their homes included teepees made of buffalo skins held up by wooden poles and domed-shaped lodges covered by earth or grass. The Lakota people made much of their clothing from the skin of deer and antelope. Men wore animal skin leggings and buffalo furs over their shoulders while women wore dresses made of deerskin. On their feet they wore animal skin moccasins.



Iroquois

The **Iroquois** hunted deer and black bear, fished, grew corn, beans, and squash, and gathered nuts and berries. Their homes were called longhouses and were made of bent wooden poles and sheets of elm tree bark. They made most of their clothing from deerskin including long skirts, vests, leggings, moccasins and fur capes.

American Indian Resources

| Resource | Definition | Examples |
|----------|------------|----------|
| Natural | | |
| Human | | |
| Capital | | |

My Resources

| Resource | Definition (in my own words) | Examples |
|----------|------------------------------|----------|
| Natural | | |
| Human | | |
| Capital | | |

Study Guide – American Indians Test

Archaeology:

Archaeologists study human behavior and cultures of the past through the recovery and analysis of artifacts.

Scientists do not agree about when and how people first arrived in the Western Hemisphere.

Cactus Hill is located on the Nottoway River in southeastern Virginia. Evidence that humans lived at Cactus Hill as early as 15,000 - 18,000 years ago makes it one of the oldest archaeological sites in North America.

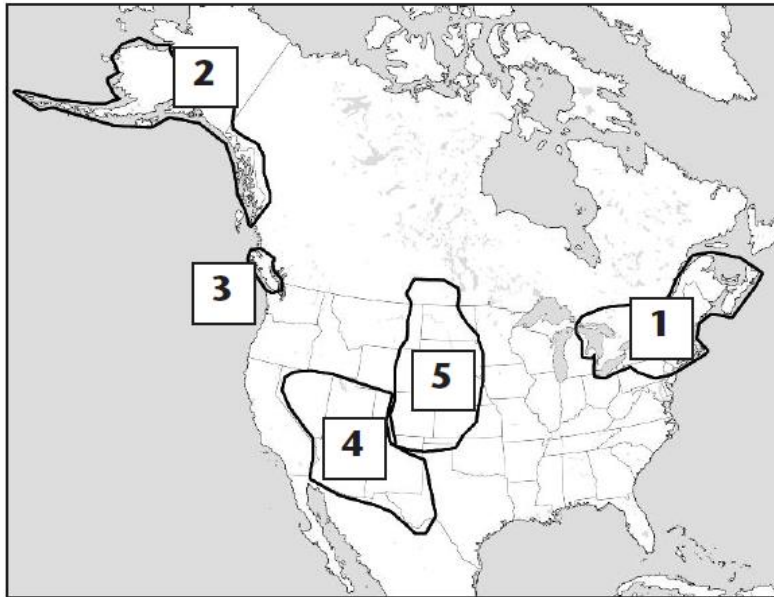


Study Strategy – Self Quiz: Go to page 3 in this packet. Try to answer the questions, one at a time, without looking at the notes. When you think you answered the question completely, check your

American Indians lived in all areas of North America: (SEE MAP ON NEXT PAGE)

1. Iroquois homeland includes northeast North America, called the Eastern Woodlands, which is heavily forested.
2. Inuit inhabited present-day Alaska and northern Canada. They lived in Arctic areas where the temperature is below freezing much of the year.
3. Kwakiutl homeland includes the Pacific Northwest coast, characterized by a rainy, mild climate.
4. Pueblo tribes inhabited the Southwest in present-day New Mexico and Arizona, where they lived in desert areas and areas bordering cliffs and mountains.
5. Lakota people inhabited the interior of the United States, called the Great Plains, which is characterized by dry grasslands.

Members of these tribes live in their homelands and in many other areas of North America today.



Study Strategy – Make a map: Draw an outline of North America. Place all five tribes in the correct location. Check with your notes. Then add climate or geographic related fact for each tribe.

Use of Environment:

In the past, American Indians fished, hunted, and grew crops for food. They made clothing from animal skins and plants. They constructed shelters from resources found in their environment (e.g., sod, stones, animal skins, and wood).

Types of resources:

- Natural resources: Things that come directly from nature
 - The fish American Indians caught, wild animals they hunted, and crops they grew were examples of natural resources.
- Human resources: People working to produce goods and services
 - People who fished, made clothing, and hunted animals were examples of human resources.
- Capital resources: Goods produced and used to make other goods and services
 - The canoes, bows, and spears American Indians made were examples of capital resources.

Study Strategy - Use index cards: Place an example on one side by name or picture. Write the type of resource on the other side. Make sure you include a card for each resource and its definition.

Whole Unit Review:

<http://www.solpass.org/z-site/us1/fps/fp3dcrossindiab.php> (choose Tabb MS password: tabbtigers)