



Native Americans

Before Christopher Columbus or our great countries name sake Amerigo Vespucci, this land of ours was occupied by indigenous inhabitants. Though many different nations had tried to inhabit different areas, the common thread was the Native Americans. They lived all over the continent in every topography. There are still hundreds of different Native American tribes, all varying in customs and traditions.

Name _____

Do all of the following requirements (1-5)

- _____1. Compare and contrast the traditional lifestyles, homes, clothing, food, traditions, etc. of Native American tribes from at least five different regions of the country.
- _____2. Research Native American's trading with the colonists. List what type of goods were traded and where.
- _____3. Make a list of at least five famous Native Americans. Tell what made each individual famous, to which tribe did they belonged and share at least one interesting fact about them.
- _____4. Find one of the many stories where if it weren't for the Native American people this fledgling nation might not have survived.
- _____5. Research the Native American tribes that lived in your local area. Make a PowerPoint presentation, poster or booklet to teach your Patrol or a younger patrol about their culture and customs.

Do Four of the following optional requirements (6-16)

- _____6. List the names of the 50 states. Research which names have Native American origins.
- _____7. Find out which foods were eaten by Native Americans in your area and how they acquired and prepared them.
- _____8. Visit a museum to find out about Native American tribes. Look at the artifacts they have and their uses. Look for any examples of Native American Art and note something interesting about them.

- _____9. Build a replica of one of the many types of Native American dwellings. Such as tepees, wigwams, log houses, chickees, lean-tos, etc. Bring it to a meeting to show your troop and explain what was used to build it and what they would have used to build it in the past, if it differs.
- _____10. **Native Americans' spiritual beliefs** often differed from those of Christianity as missionaries had not reached them with the good news of Christ. Without the saving knowledge of Christ, the Native Americans believed in a higher power or **spirit and used tools to "talk" to the spirits like** Kachina dolls and dream catchers. Discuss with your family or patrol which tribes used these items and what they meant.
- _____11. Research the body markings and head dresses of different tribes and describe their meaning and significance.
- _____12. Explain what wampum is and **explore what place it had on Lewis and Clark's** journey.
- _____13. Build a life size tepee and share the experience with your patrol or the younger boys in your Troop.
- _____14. Sleep in the tepee on a camping trip.
- _____15. Arrange to meet with an individual of Native American descent. Ask him/her to explain to you about the culture and customs. Take notes and discuss what you learned with your mentor.
- _____16. Over the course of history the treatment of the Native American people has been called into question. Create a list contrasting what was done to these indigenous people and how America tried to compensate. What things are still in place that were initiated during the dispersing and uprooting of these Native American people?

Trail Badge Mentor Signature

Date

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