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America 1491

How did the environment affect the societies in the Americas?

Activity: Create your own society.

- Directions: In groups of 4 or 5 you will be given the characteristics of the different environments of America in 1491
- Using these features, you must create a society that lives there, explaining
 - Culture/lifestyle
 - Clothing
 - Housing



Northwestern Native Americans

- Culture and lifestyle: hunters & fishers; totem poles
- Clothing: animals (furs and skins) along with raincoats made of bark
- Houses: mostly plank houses made with cedar



Plateau Native Americans

- Culture & lifestyle: Nomadic hunter gatherers, fisher
 - Foods: vegetables, fruits, meat & fish
- Clothing: Bark breechcloth/ panchos. Men would wrap their legs with fur, women had hemp leggings
- Housing: dependant on materials available
 - Tepees, tule mat lodges lean-tos & pit houses
 - In the winter permanent villages, warmer months nomadic

Great Basin Native Americans

- Culture and life style: "desert culture"
 - Nomadic hunter gatherers
- Clothing: breechcloth and dresses of skins or woven grass
- Housing: brush shelters, wickiups and lean-tos



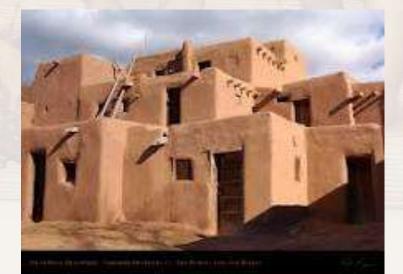
California Native Americans

- Culture and lifestyle: hunter fishers
- Clothing: Chumash 'treasure basket'
 - Worn by chief
- Housing: grass mat houses, cedar bark lodges,
 Redwood plank houses, pit houses or earth

lodges

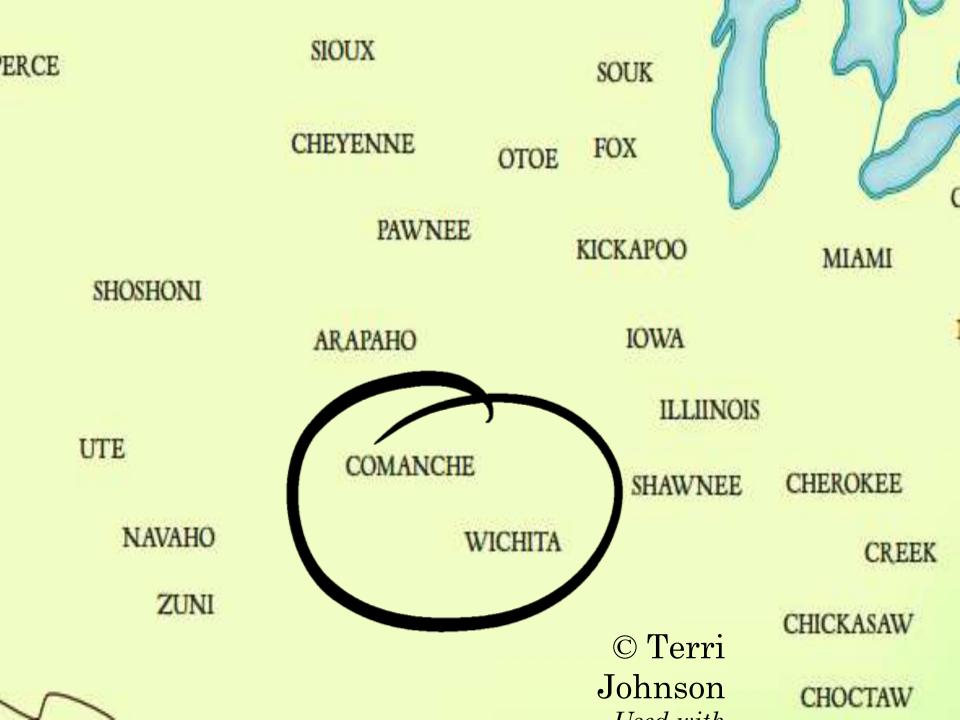
Southwest Native Americans

- Culture and lifestyle: farmers and nomadic hunters
- Clothing: deer or sheepskin, or wool
- Housing: adobe (pueblo) houses with hunters living in brush shelters or wickiups



Great Plains Indians

- Culture and lifestyle: Nomadic hunters and farmers
- Clothing: bison skin
- Housing: tepees, with permanent earth lodges found by the rivers.



Plains Indian Bison Hunt



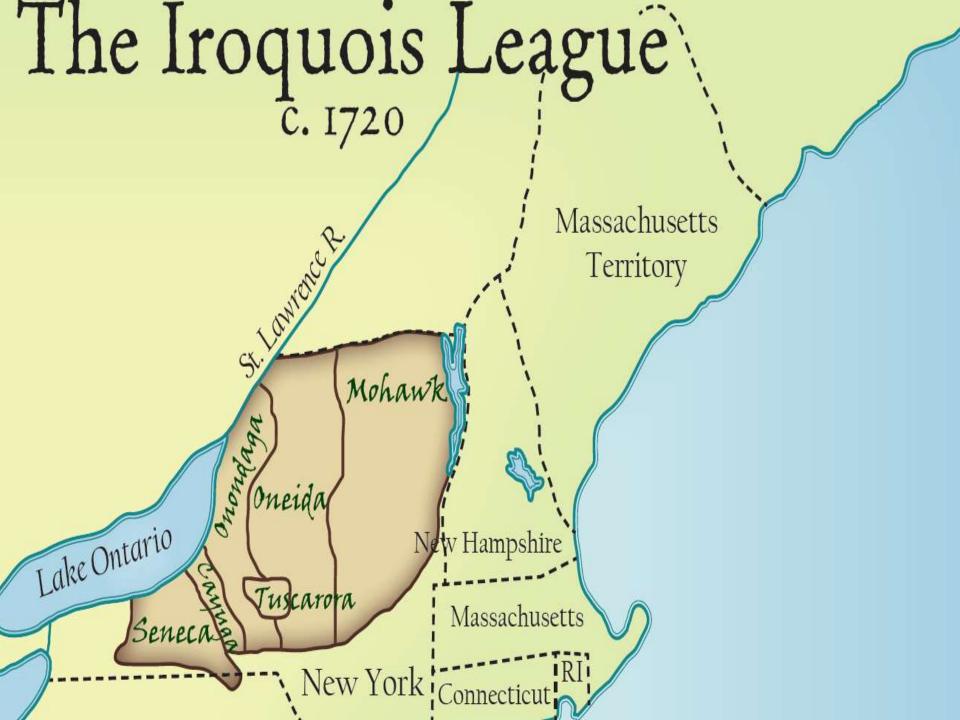


Eastern Woodland Native Americans

- Culture and lifestyle: hunter gatherers, farmers, fishers and trappers
- Clothing: animal skins (buckskins) in the winter
- Houses: wigwams made of birchbark and

longhouses









Southeastern Native Americans

- Culture and lifestyle: Nomadic hunters, fishers and farmers
- Clothing: deerskin clothes, rabbit fur and porcupine quills
- Housing: Caddo beehive thatched grass

houses



Sub Arctic Native Americans

- Culture and lifestyle: Nomadic huntergatherer
- Clothing: made of moose or caribou skin, shirt, pants, robes and moccasins
- Housing: pit houses, wigmams, tepees, smokehouses and lean-tos

AMERICAN INDIAN Culture Groups

Arctic (Eskimos, Inuits)	Hunting, Gathering, and Fishing
Plains Indians (Sioux, Comanche, Witchita)	Horses (introduced from Europe) Bison Hunters - Migratory (Teepees)
Great Lakes (Iroquois, Algonquins)	Hunting and Gathering Slash and Burn Agriculture "Three Sisters" (Corn, Squash, Beans) Longhouses (Iroquois)
Southwest (Hopi, Pueblo)	Clay Houses / Cliff Dwellings Maize (Corn) Agriculture
Southeast (Cherokee, Creek)	Agriculture / Settled Communities Mississippian Culture (Cahokia, Mounds)



DIVERSITY

156
Distinct
Ethnic
Groups





