

Native People of North America

Grades 4-6

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Illustrated by Vitalli Bulakh

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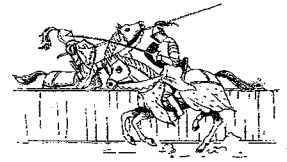
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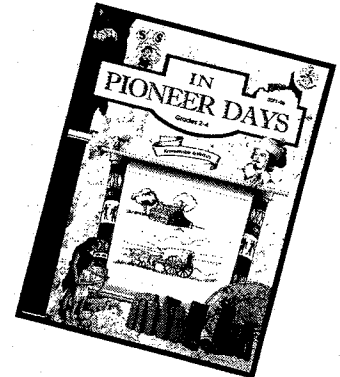
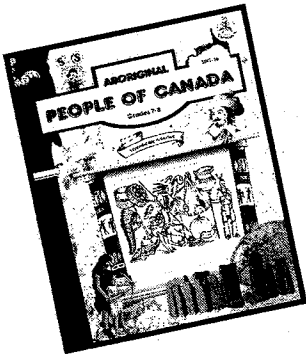
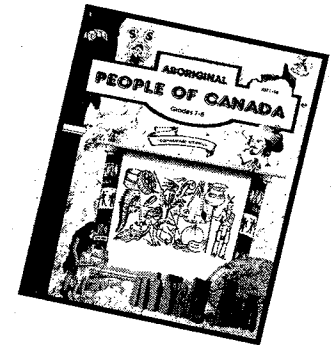
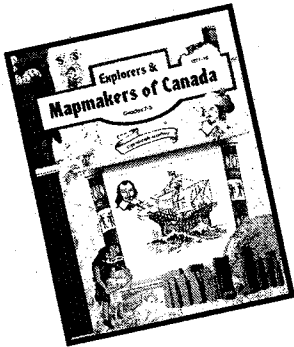
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Information Card 1

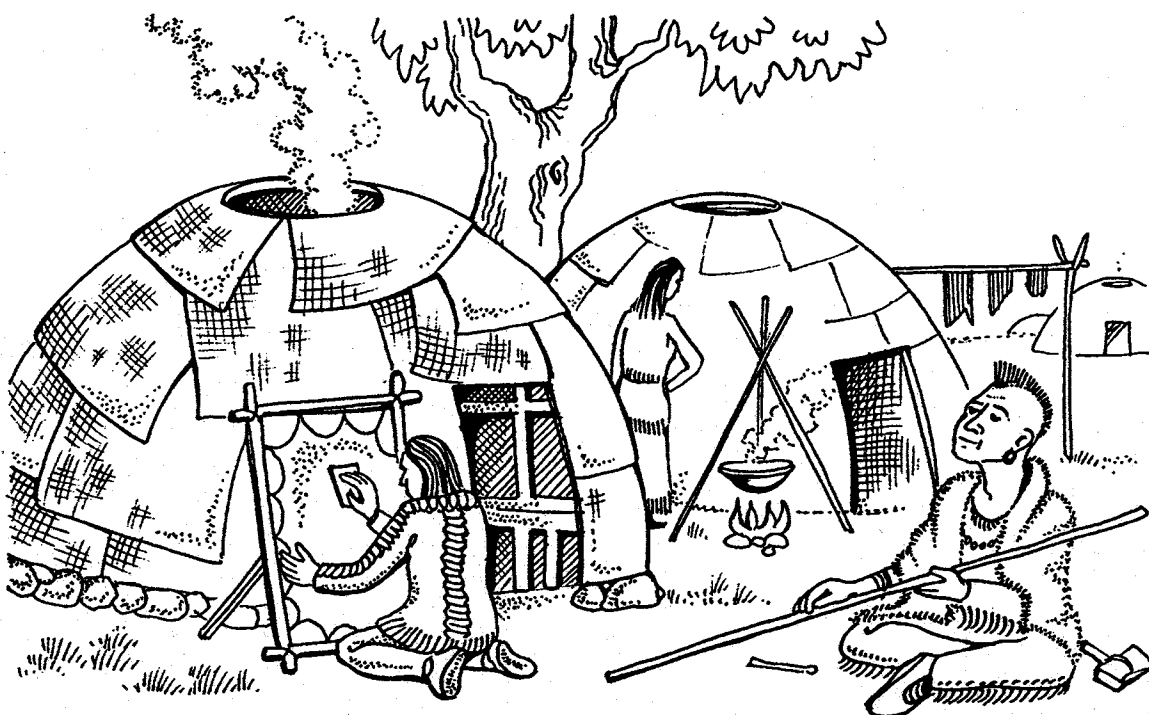
Introduction to The Algonquians

Some of the Algonquian tribes were Micmac, Malecite, Abnaki, Wampanoag, Mantuak, Delaware and Powhatan.

The Algonquians lived along the Eastern coast of North America. The dense woodland along the Atlantic coast supplied the tribes with trees, game, fish and berries.

They were excellent hunters and gatherers. The southern tribes were able to farm some of their food, as well. The most commonly grown crops were corn and squash.

About one hundred people lived and worked in one village. They shared everything - work, food, belongings - and behaved like a large family.



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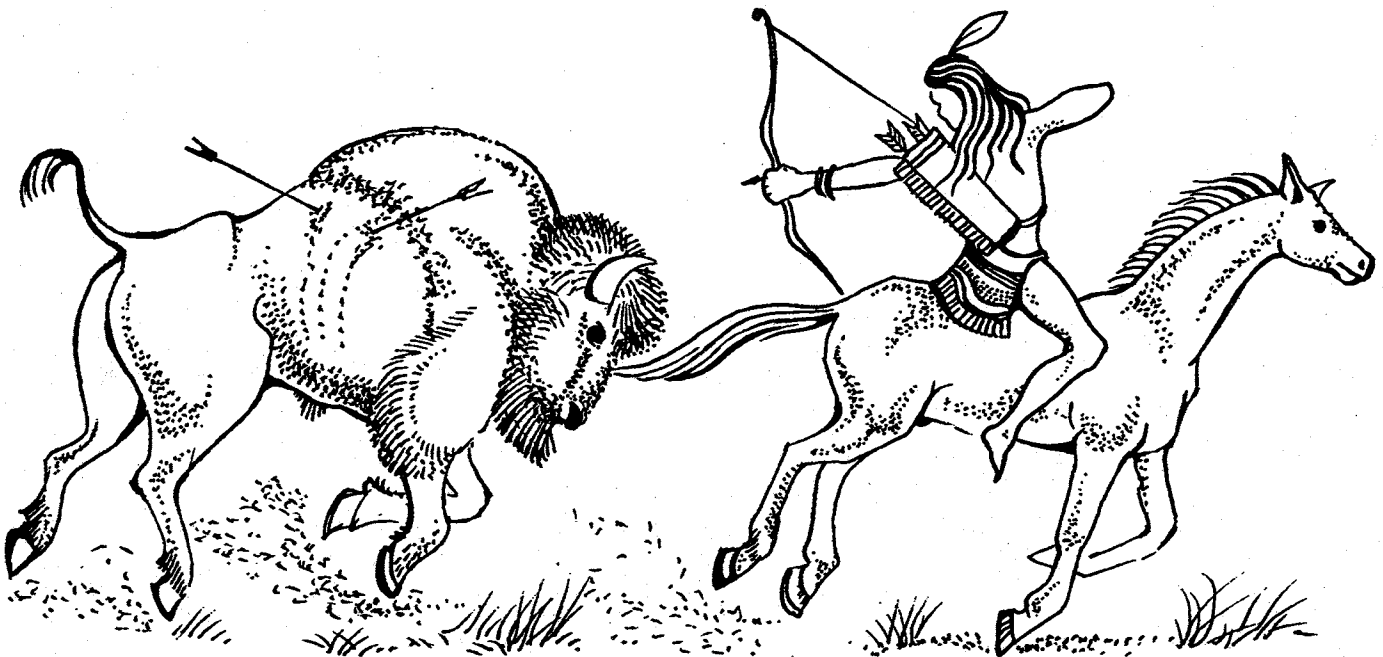
Information Card 2

Introduction to Natives on the Plains

Some of the Plains tribes called themselves Sioux, Pawnee, Kiowa, Comanche, Crow, Assiniboin, Plains Cree, Gros Ventre, Blackfoot, and Sarcee.

These tribes were spread over central North America. They lived in what is now Alberta, Saskatchewan, western Manitoba and down into the United States, almost to the Gulf of Mexico.

The land they occupied was flat, without mountains or lakes. There were only a few trees along the river banks. The most difficult times for the natives on the Plains were the winters because it was difficult to find food. Fortunately, they were skilled hunters of buffalo.



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Information Card 3

Introduction to Northern Forest Natives

This group of natives lived all across the northernmost part of North America, known today as Canada. Some of these tribes were Kutchin, Hare, Yellowknife, Dogrib, and Beaver. Some of the Algonquian and Plains natives, those living in the north, are also included in this group.

Depending on where tribes were living, they had very different landforms around them. The western groups had the Rocky Mountains, the central groups had flat plains and the eastern groups had forests.

They survived through long, cold winters by eating meat and fish. The Northern Forest natives were nomadic by necessity, moving in order to find food.



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Information Card 4

Algonquian Homes

The Algonquians lived in wigwams. The trunks of young trees were placed in the ground around the area where the home was to be built. The tree tops were then bent together and tied at the top. Bark was used for the walls. Light birch bark was used in the summer, and heavier elm, or walnut bark was used in the winter. There was often a door at both ends of the wigwam.

The insides of wigwams were simple. Beds were actually benches covered with fur, or simply fur-covered platforms. In the center of the wigwam was a fire that was used for cooking and warmth.

