

Ms. Corey

# Indigenous Indians

## Native American Cultures

Directions: Complete the chart below while discussing the presentation.

	Dates	Dwelling	Food	Tools	Interesting Facts
Paleo	12,000 B.C.	None, no permanent home (Nomads)	mastodon and buffalo	Stone weapons and other tools	• First people to live in Tennessee • Ice Age
Archaic	8,000 B.C.	less nomadic, had villages	deer and smaller animals	atlatl to hunt small animals	• 3 eras: early, middle, late
Woodland	1,200 B.C.	villages along rivers	farmed corn, hunted and gathered, fish	bow and arrow	• traded with other tribes by canoe • more advanced • built Pinson Mounds - religious ceremonies
Mississippian	800 A.D.	Lived in larger villages *not nomadic	farmed, better corn & beans, hunt	bow and arrow, stone tools - knives, hammerstone	• built mounds for temples, chiefs and burials • last of prehistoric indians • Disappeared due to diseases from explorers.

© 2014 Brain Wrinkles

\*Chucalissa Village is in Memphis, TN

# Paleo Indians

archaeologist - studies ancient human past

Mon.

## Paleo-Indians

[http://www.tn4me.org/minor\\_cat.cfm/minor\\_id/86/major\\_id/28/era\\_id/1](http://www.tn4me.org/minor_cat.cfm/minor_id/86/major_id/28/era_id/1)

### Who were the First Tennesseans?

1 The very first people to move into what would become Tennessee arrived here more than 12,000 years ago.

2 Not much is known about these early people. Most of what they left behind, that have been found by modern archaeologists, are stone weapons and tools.

3 Scientists call these people the Paleo-Indians. The Paleo-Indians were nomads. This means they did not have a permanent home. Instead, they traveled from place to place hunting animals.

4 They probably hunted herds of mastodon and other late Ice Age animals that once lived in Tennessee. At a dig in Williamson County, two mastodon skeletons were found. One had a bone with marks that had obviously been made by a sharp object wielded by a human.

5 Paleo-Indians probably lived in groups of related family members who hunted together. Archaeologists assume that they built shelters and dressed warmly for the weather, but we don't have any evidence yet to show that.

### What was the land like?

6 The area that is now TN was a much different place back then. The geologic time period for the Paleo-Indians is called the Pleistocene Epoch.

7 During this time period Tennessee was a much colder place. The climate was closer to that of northern Minnesota or southern Canada today. Snow-covered the ground all winter long.

8 Because of the environment, different animals walked the hills, valleys, and mountains of our state. Animals such as the mastodon, giant armadillo, giant beaver, saber-toothed tiger, jaguar, and the giant ground sloth all lived in Tennessee.

9 Of course, these animals are now all extinct, but traces of their existence have been left behind. Archaeologists continue to find the fossilized bones of these animals in Tennessee.

10 It wasn't a completely different world. If you traveled back in time you would recognize the Smoky Mountains, Cumberland Plateau, Cumberland River, Tennessee River, and Mississippi River.

11 You may also have noticed familiar animals. Deer, rabbits, turkeys, ducks, and coyotes also lived during this time. Some animals, like the arctic shrew, still around today living in colder environments, once lived in our cold and snowy state.



Tue.

live in

## Paleo Indians

①

Have you ever watched the movie Ice Age? Paleo Indians were the first people to inhabit the Americas during the final episodes of the glacial Pleistocene Period. They were nomads that traveled in small bands and followed the herds of large animals. Nomads do not have any permanent settlement or homes. The Paleo Indians sheltered in caves when they found them in their travels. The extinct mastodon was one such animal herd that they followed and it required them to work together in order to kill it. The mastodon was their Wal-Mart. They were critical to the survival of the Paleo Indians.

important

caption

A mastodon stood 7 to 10 ft tall and weighed 8,000 to 12,000 lbs.



picture

At The Coates Hines site in Williamson County Tennessee, archaeologist discovered mastodon skeletons. The mastodon had bone spear tips embedded in the bone. The site had been a pond where Paleo Indians killed the animals who came there to drink and eat.

②

How might the climate cause Paleo Indians to be nomads? They followed their food (animals). Animals did not stay in one place.

How would a mastodon be the Paleo Indians Wal-Mart? It provides blankets, tools, clothing, and food.

↑  
used bones to make tools.

③

# Archaic Indians

Wed

## Archaic Indians

period of time  
3:11

Changed ①

Archaic Indians lived 3,000 to 10,000 years ago. That 7,000 year span is the longest of the prehistoric Indian periods. The Archaic Period had three distinct eras that transformed over time due to a warming of the climate and new plants. The early Archaic people were hunters and gatherers, much like the Paleo Era. The Middle Archaic Indians were less nomadic and for at least part of the year lived in villages. The late Archaic Indians also hunted and gathered but began to grow plants to supplement their diets.

What led to the transformations during the Archaic Period?

Climate change

②

During the Archaic Period the mastodon had become extinct and the Archaic Indians hunted smaller game like deer, and animals that lived in the deciduous forest.

What sort of changes occurred during the Archaic Period?

Grew plants, made better tools, less nomadic

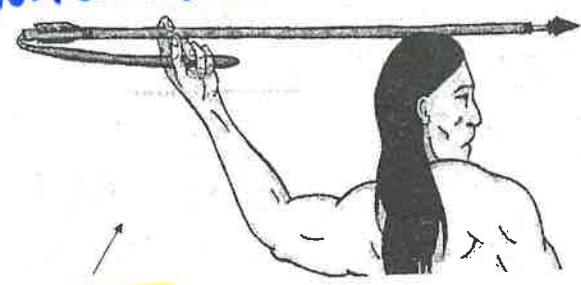
③

The tools of the Archaic Indians became more refined and effective. They are famous for having made and used the atlatl. An atlatl was a tool that allowed the Archaic Indians to throw spears at a greater distance and with more force.

What does prehistoric mean?

Before recorded history.

Worked better



In what ways would the atlatl help the Archaic Indians?

They threw them farther and harder.

- Early → hunters & gatherers
- Middle → less nomadic
- Late → began to grow plants

④



# Woodland Indians

Thurs

## Woodland Indians

worked on land

① Woodland Indians existed between 1,200 and 3,000 years ago. Woodland Indians like the Archaic Indians cultivated plants and were hunters and gatherers, but they were much more advanced. The changes that occurred during the Woodland Indians era were not because of climate changes, but were happening because of their need to live in communities with lots of neighbors. The rate of change occurs more rapidly during the Woodland Indians Era. Woodland Indians were the first to make pottery and bows and arrows. They also built large burial mounds. Woodland Indians often built their villages along rivers and they traded with other groups long distances away by using canoes. Woodland Indians also liked to fish and supplemented their diets with various food sources from the river. Corn was first discovered and grown in this Era.



Twin Mounds

\*First to develop farming



important events happened

② One of the most famous sites that the Indians from the Woodland Era left behind are the Pinson Mounds in Madison County Tennessee. It is believed that the mounds were originally a permanent residential community that over the years turned into a ceremonial place where they gathered for special events and burials. The mounds indicate that the Woodland Indians arranged the mounds with astronomy in mind. Archaeologists have discovered shells, copper, and other materials in their digs at the Pinson Mounds. This indicates that the Woodland Indians traded with others from very far away.

stars

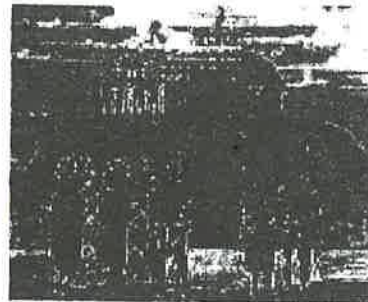
These mounds were built by many people hauling dirt one bucket at a time. The Pinson Mounds cover 500 acres, including at least 17 man-made mounds. (Pictured above) is Saul's Mound which is 72 feet high.

# Mississippian Indians

Fri.

## Mississippian Indians

① Mississippian Indians existed between 1,100 and 400 years ago. Their period is characterized by 1) large mounds that served as temples, meeting places, and homes for the leaders. 2) mounds and smaller shelters built around open areas in the center of the villages for gathering places, 3) more people and permanent settlements 4) organized leadership and ranks among the people. 5) warfare between groups over land and alliances 6) religious ceremonies and symbols 7) better variety of corn and beans 8) ceramics and pottery that were beautiful art as well as functional.



Why did the Mississippian Indians build large earthen mounds?

homes for chiefs, temples, burials, meeting place

② Becoming a chief was usually an inherited privilege passed down through generations. The need for warfare came about because of the increase in population and need to protect the land. Warfare was also important for young males as a way to achieve higher rankings in the social order of the tribe. The Mississippian Indians were the last of the prehistoric people in the eastern part of America. As explorers began to arrive they brought slavery, diseases, and acts of brutality that decimated the Indians.

Why was war an important part of their lives?

protect land and crops

③ The Chucalissa Indian Village is a Mississippian Indian Village near Memphis Tennessee. The mounds built there were home to more than 1,000 Mississippian Indians in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.

Highlight the reasons why the Mississippian Indians disappeared.

In what ways have the Mississippian Indians become more sophisticated than the Woodland Indians?

Grew better crops, had leadership, art, war

1400's



# Cherokee Indians

TNT

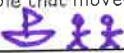
## Cherokee Indians

### IMPORTANT TERMS

vocab



- Clan** - a clan was made up of members of the same family
- Fertile** - capable of producing crops
- Principal** - most important
- Settlers** - the white people that moved to the Indian's land from other locations



### WHERE DID THEY LIVE?

The Cherokee Indians were the largest Native American Indian group in the entire South. The Cherokee Nation claimed thousands of acres from Ohio to South Carolina. They settled in east TN. They settled in a beautiful area with forests, mountains, plenty of rivers, and fertile land. There was plenty of wildlife and they lived a happy life. The Cherokee Nation covered most of 8 states that included some or all of present day Tennessee, Georgia, North and South Carolina, Kentucky, Alabama, Virginia, and West Virginia.

### THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF

The title of the "Principal" Chief was created in 1794 when the Cherokee formed their government called the Cherokee Nation. The Cherokee Nation wrote its own Constitution in 1827 and had three branches of government.

Each Cherokee village had 2 principal chiefs who had different responsibilities. The "white" Chief led the group during peaceful times, and the "Red" Chief led during a time of war. The chiefs did not rule alone. They had a village council who helped make important decisions for the village.

### THE CHEROKEE WAY OF LIFE

The Cherokees were known as one of the Five Civilized Tribes because they took on many of the customs of the white Settlers. They began to farm and they even dressed more like the new white settlers who moved into their area.

The Cherokees who lived in the valleys were mainly farmers. The women planted vegetables and sunflowers. They tended to the crops throughout the summer and in the fall it was harvest time. The women were also gatherers. They gathered apples and other fruits, as well as nuts and berries. The men were hunters and traders. They hunted deer, bear, wild turkeys, and other woodland animals. They traded their crops and farming secrets to the settlers in exchange for weapons and other material things.

The Cherokees used the many rivers as a way for transportation. Using a river to transport things and travel was much quicker than on foot. They made canoes for their river travel, and they were experts of the rivers and woodland trails. The Cherokees lived in villages that had a population of about 400-500 people. They had two villages, a summer village and a winter village. Each family had two homes.

In the Cherokee Nation women were equal to the men. The women were warriors, took part in government decisions, and ruled the home. In fact, the women of the tribe own the homes. The children belonged to their mother's clan. The Cherokee Nation was divided into seven different clans. The people in each clan are related to the others in that clan. The seven clans are the following: Long Hair, Paint, Bird, Wolf, Wild Potato, Blue, and Deer. At birth, each child became a member of the mother's clan. Clans got together each year for festivals.



\* The Beloved Woman is a respected female leader in the Cherokee Nation. Nancy Ward.

# Creek Indians

## Creek Indians

### IMPORTANT TERMS

**Red Stick War** - civil war within the Creeks

**Hospitable** - friendly

**Democracy** - government leaders were elected by people

**Cradle boards** - board that a baby is secured to by wrapping a blanket around it

creeks vs. creeks

### WHERE DID THEY LIVE?

The Creek Indians called themselves **Muscogees**. In their own language Muscogee meant "people living on land that was wet or prone to flooding." When settlers came to the lands, they were called the Creeks because the settlers noticed that their towns were always **built** along the banks of creeks. The Creek Indians lived in present-day Georgia, Alabama, and some in **Southern Tennessee**.

### RELATIONSHIPS

The Creeks were known for being **hospitable** towards the European settlers. They traded with all of the settlers, but they preferred to deal with the English. The English had a **great variety and better quality of goods** than the Spanish or French.

During the War of 1812, the **Creek nation split** and had their own **civil war**. The war happened because the Lower Creeks were joining the rebellion against the United States and joining the British. The Upper Creeks didn't want to join the allegiance. The division of the nation resulted in the

**Red Stick War**, a **devastating civil war** within the tribe. At the end of the war, the peace treaty meant the Creeks had lost **22 million acres of land** to the United States.



### THE CREEK WAY OF LIFE

The location of the towns was ideal for growing crops. The creeks and streams near their town had annual spring **floods**. The floods provided favorable conditions for crops. The Creeks were **skilled farmers**, gathered **fruits and berries**. They were also **skillful farmers**, depending on **animals for meat and clothing**. The Creeks main source of nutrition came from corn. **hunters**

The town maintained a large field of fertile land for farming, and there was a section **reserved** for each family. The people in the town worked together on the entire field and harvested the crops together. Everyone was expected to contribute to the field.

They **hunted deer, wild hog, turkey, and smaller game such as opossum and squirrel**. Meat and fish were cooked by boiling or roasting. They caught their meals by fishing, using nets, traps, and spears.

Traditional clothing for men consisted of a breech-cloth, leggings, and a shirt. They used **moccasins** in the winter to protect their feet. Women wore shawls and deerskin skirts. Both men and women wore their hair long. The men plucked their facial hair and also removed the hair around their heads, leaving a long lock of hair that they braided. The women sometimes had hair that would reach their calves and wove it around their heads.

### CLANS

The Creek society was based on a **clan system**. Each person's identity was **determined by his or her mother**. Each town included members of **six clans**. When a couple married, the husband went to live with his wife and in the home of her parents. Once the husband built a home and proved he was able to support her by planting a farm, the marriage was finalized.

When a couple had a child, most of the responsibility was the mother's. Babies spent their first year secured to a **cradle board**. Boys were wrapped in cougar skins, and the girls were covered with deerskin. Girls were named from an event that is associated with her birth. A son is called by his clan name until he is a teenager. When he becomes a teenager, he will be given a personal name based on his personality trait.



# Chickasaw Indians

## Chickasaw Indians

### IMPORTANT TERMS

**hearths** - floor of a fire pit

**Toli** - a stickball game

**breechcloth** - a cloth worn in the front and back around the waist

**scalplock** - a long lock of hair left on a shaved head

### CLANS

Just like the Cherokee, the Chickasaw men become apart of the wife's family after they are married. Raising children is the mother's responsibility, not the father's. If there is a boy to raise, the mother's brother (uncle) is responsible for disciplining and training the boys. The Chickasaws had over **15** fifteen clans included **bear, raccoon, bird, fox, deer, skunk, turtle, wolf, panther, fish, squirrel, alligator, blackbird, leader, and Spanish**. There were certain characteristics that were connected with the clan.

### THE CHICKASAW WAY OF LIFE

The Chickasaw Indians were part of the five civilized tribes. They adopted several practices of the white settlers. The Chickasaw people lived in established villages of house and small farms. The Chickasaw home is similar to Cherokee. The Chickasaw Indians were **farming** people. The women in the village were in charge of most of the farming, harvesting crops of corn, beans, squash, and sunflowers. They also gathered nuts, berries, fruits, and herbs. The men in the village were responsible for hunting, shooting deer, wild turkeys, and small game animals. They also fished in the rivers. The Chickasaw Indians are also known for making cornbread, soups, and stews cooked over stone **hearths**.

The Chickasaw children had chores and specific jobs that had to be completed. They helped in the village with the mother. The boys were trained to fight in battle. The boys were not supposed to show pain or emotion, because this was believed to be a weakness. The boys began warrior training immediately after birth. The children did have beaded dolls, toys, and games to play within the village. The children played a stickball game, similar to the Cherokee, called **Toli**. This was very popular sport with the teenage boys and among adult men.

Chickasaw men wore a **breechcloth**, sometimes with leather leggings to protect their legs. Chickasaw women wore wraparound skirts made of woven fiber or deerskin. The Chickasaws also wore moccasins on their feet. Chickasaw men usually shaved their heads except for a single **scalplock**. Important Chickasaw men had special patterns tattooed on their bodies. ~~When the Chickasaw went~~

### WHERE DID THEY LIVE?

The Chickasaw was a smaller tribe that lived on lands south of the Cherokee.

The Chickasaw lived in present day **West** Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi. They hunted on surrounding areas in present day Kentucky. The Chickasaw lived much like their neighbors, the Cherokees.



# Tribes in Tennessee

Unit

