



## Tripping Back in Time: A Look at Native American Life

### Introduction

Wouldn't it be neat if you could have the ability to travel back in time? Consider it done; with a catch....your destination will be my choice, not yours. You must go back in time when the Native Americans weren't taken over by the Europeans. You will be assuming the role of a newspaper reporter and record the life styles of the Native Americans. Your end product will be the creation of a Native American Newsletter.

### Task

This is a great activity to work in cooperation with the Librarian, the Instructional Technologist, and your classroom teacher. You have plenty of time, so please be thorough and do a terrific job!

Working together in groups will be the name of the game, preferably in groups of four. Each traveler will be responsible for researching, word processing, and adding a graphic to at least one news article. You need to agree on a theme and title for the newsletter and work together to create the final newsletter. The group will choose one of the following Native American tribes of North America on which to base the information of the newsletter: *Arctic (Inuit), Northwest (Kwakiutl), Plains (Sioux), Southwest (Pueblo), and Eastern Woodland (Iroquois)* Each article will feature one feature of tribal life and will report everyday events as if they are happening or have just occurred.

## Process

- Explore resources for ideas.
- Visit the Web sites provided in order to find newsworthy stories.
- In addition to the hyperlinks provided, you may also use library books and media.
- Meet as a group to discuss findings, to set a theme and title for the newsletter, and to make individual assignments. Each member of the group should choose one of the following facets of tribal life on which to report:
  - **Location of tribe** - including maps
  - **Clothing** - including those worn by men, women and children
  - **Living accommodations** - including specific descriptions of living quarters and how the accommodations were constructed
  - **Diet** - including hunting and/or gathering techniques
- Gather data and at least one graphic related to your assignment.
- Write at least one article, add your name as a byline, and save it to a disk.
- Save at least one graphic on a disk.
- Be sure to document the sources you have used.
- Work as a group on the format and layout of the newsletter, transferring articles and graphics saved on disk.
- Edit the newsletter and add final touches to make it appealing to readers.

## Resources

### Overview of the History of Native Americans:

*Britannica Online* "Native Americans"

- <http://www.search.eb.com/ebi/article?eu=296980&query=united%20states%20indians>

"Native Americans"

- <http://www.americanwest.com/pages/indians.htm>

### Native American Resources:

"Culture and Folklore"

- <http://www.kstrom.net/isk/>

### **Maps:**

"Maps of Native American lands"

- <http://www.kstrom.net/isk/maps/mapmenu.html>

### **Tribes by Regions in the United States:**

"Tribes by State Map Index"

- <http://www.kstrom.net/isk/maps/usmapindex.html>

### **Housing and Hunting:**

"Native American Tribal Guides"

- <http://www.eagle.ca/~matink/themes/FirstNations/natives.html#FN>

### **The Food of Native Americans:**

"Native American Recipes"

- <http://www.kstrom.net/isk/food/recipes.html>

### **Herbal Medicine of the Native Americans:**

"Traditional Herbal and Plant Knowledge"

- <http://www.kstrom.net/isk/food/plants.html>

### **Art and Culture:**

"Native American Art"

- <http://www.kstrom.net/isk/art/art.html>

### **Religion and Beliefs of the Native Americans:**

"Native American Religion" <http://www.religioustolerance.org/nataspir.htm>

## **Where to find your graphics and Illustrations**

Google has a great image search, so try there first, and then you can try one of these:

### **NativeTech: REGIONAL OVERVIEW OF NATIVE AMERICAN CLOTHING**

**STYLES** NativeTech: **Native American** Technology and Art. Culture Areas and the Locations of Tribes with **Illustrated** Clothing. NORTHEAST 1. Virginia ...

[www.native-tech.org/clothing/regions/regions.html](http://www.native-tech.org/clothing/regions/regions.html)

### **Index of Native American History Resources on the Internet ...** at **American**

Photochromes **Native American** Photographs : Nineteenth ... of Oxford North **American** Indians , stereographs ... James Mooney's **Illustrations** and Photographs ...

[www.hanksville.org/NAresources/indices/NAhistory.html](http://www.hanksville.org/NAresources/indices/NAhistory.html)

### **Native American Facts for Kids: Resources on Native Americans for ...**

... **illustrations** (though there are many links to good **illustrations**). ... including the older computers that many **American** Indian kids ... **Native Americans** are not extinct ...

[www.native-languages.org/kids.htm](http://www.native-languages.org/kids.htm) - 20k -

## Project Rubric



CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
<b>Requirements</b>	All of the required content was present.	Almost all the required content was present.	At least 75% of the required content was present.	Less than 75% of the required content was present.
<b>Articles - Interest</b>	The articles contain facts, figures, and/or word choices that make the articles exceptionally interesting to readers.	The articles contain facts, figures, and/or word choices that make the articles interesting to readers.	The article contains some facts or figures but is marginally interesting to read.	The article does not contain facts or figures that might make it interesting to read.
<b>Graphics</b>	Graphics are in focus, are well-cropped and are clearly related to the articles they accompany.	Graphics are in focus and are clearly related to the articles they accompany.	80-100% of the graphics are clearly related to the articles they accompany.	More than 20% of the graphics are not clearly related to the articles OR no graphics were used.
<b>Spelling and Proofreading</b>	No spelling or grammar errors remain after one or more people (in addition to the typist) read and correct the newspaper.	No more than a couple of spelling or grammar errors remain after one or more people (in addition to the typist) read and correct the newspaper.	No more than 3 spelling or grammar errors remain after one or more people (in addition to the typist) read and correct the newspaper.	Several spelling or grammar errors remain in the final copy of the newspaper.
<b>Contributions of Group Members</b>	Each person in the group has contributed at least one article and one graphic without prompting from teachers or peers.	Each person in the group has contributed at least one article and one graphic with a few reminders from peers.	Each person in the group has contributed at least one article with some minimal assistance from peers.	One or more students in the group required quite a lot of assistance from peers before contributing one article.