



Connection to the Museum: Our museum's Native American exhibits help visitors learn about the cultures and traditions of the people who lived on the Texas Plains.

Grade level targeted: PK/Kindergarten

Connected learning targets:

Social Studies: Recognize that different groups of people have unique traditions and ways of life.

ELAR: Ask questions and describe observations.

Fine Arts: Explore patterns and designs through art.

Objective of lesson:

Students will identify some ways Native American families lived on the Texas Plains and recognize that every culture has unique traditions.

Summary of lesson:

Students explore:

The tipi

Buffalo hides

Clothing

Everyday tools

Discussion:

What is a tipi?

Why was the buffalo important?

How did families work together?

Students learn that Native American communities respected nature and used many parts of the buffalo for food, clothing, shelter, and tools.

Student Activity:

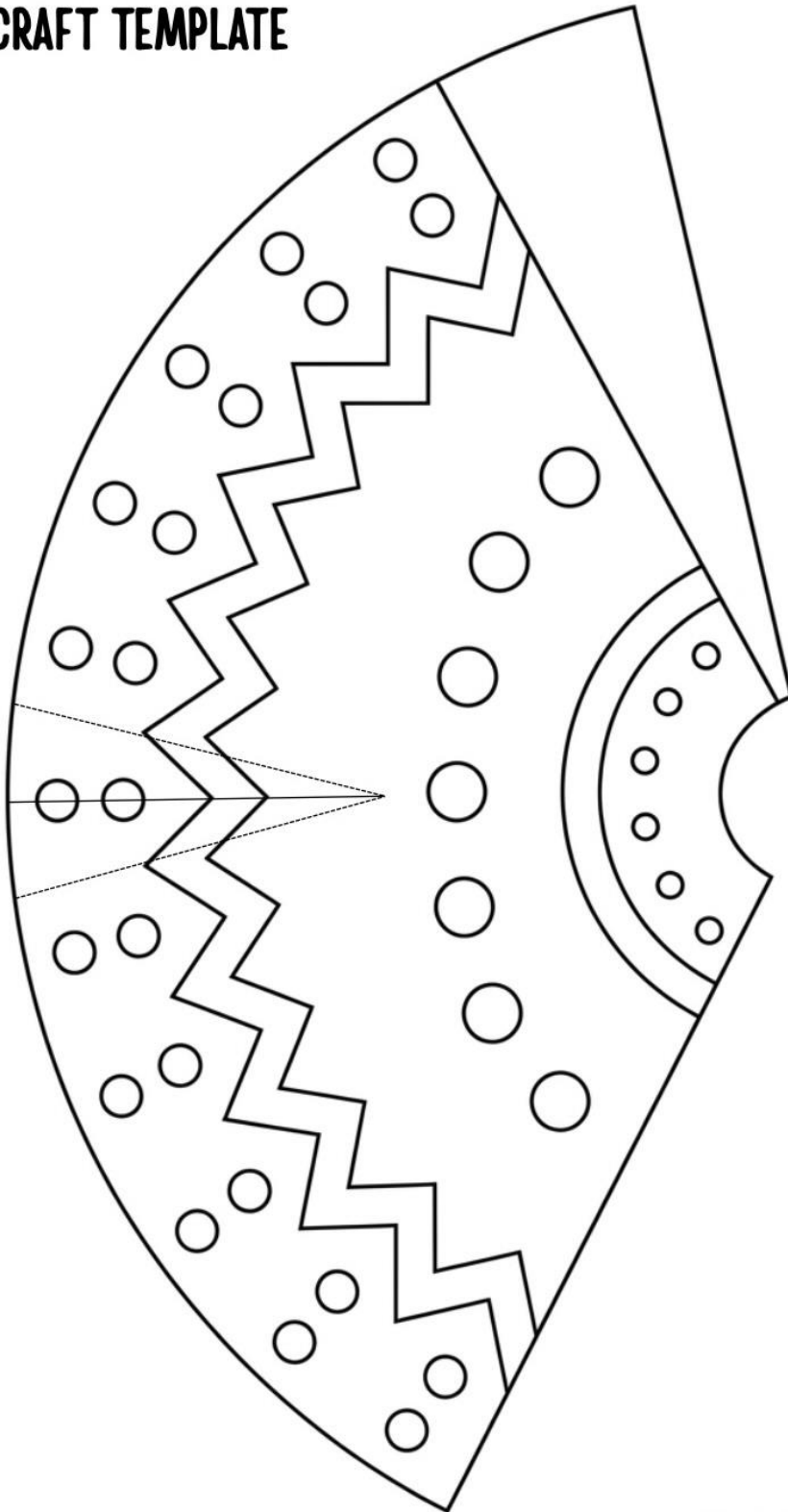
Decorate a paper tipi or draw a buffalo and label ways people used it.

Assessment:

Students share one new thing they learned about Native American life.

Name: _____

TEEPEE CRAFT TEMPLATE



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What did you learn about Native Americans?



Connection to the Museum: Our museum's collections help tell the story of the Native peoples whose cultures shaped the Texas Panhandle.

Grade level targeted: 1st – 2nd

Connected learning targets:

Social Studies: Compare ways of life in different cultures.

Science: Understand how people use natural resources.

ELAR: Make observations and communicate ideas.

Objective of lesson:

Students will explain how Native American communities used natural resources to meet their daily needs.

Summary of lesson:

Students investigate:

Tipis

Buffalo hides

Clothing

Hunting tools

Discussion:

Why were tipis good homes for Plains tribes?

How did people use buffalo?

How did families travel?

Student Activity:

Draw or write about the Plains Indians and the things you learn about them from the museum.

Assessment:

Complete the sentence:

"The buffalo was important because _____."

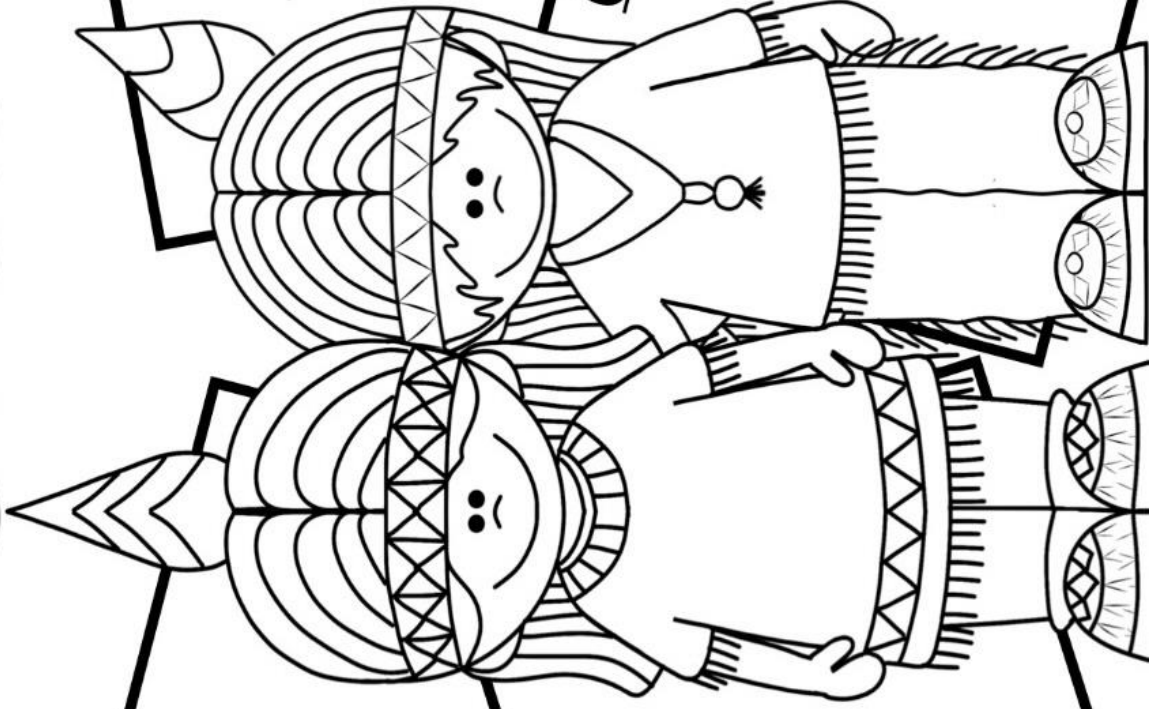
Plains Indians

Clothing

Other Facts

Food

Shelter





Connection to the Museum: Our museum's Native American collections highlight the ingenuity and traditions of the Indigenous peoples of the Texas Panhandle.

Grade level targeted: 3rd – 5th

Connected learning targets:

Social Studies: Explain how environment influences culture.

Science: Investigate how living things adapt to their environment.

ELAR: Draw conclusions using evidence.

Objective of lesson:

Students will investigate how Native American communities adapted to life on the Texas Plains.

Essential Question:

How did Native American communities use the resources around them to survive and thrive?

Summary of lesson:

Students examine: Tipi, Buffalo hide, Clothing, Hunting tools, and Household items

Discussion Questions:

Why were buffalo central to Plains life?

How did the environment influence homes and clothing?

What skills were needed to live on the Plains?

Student Activity:

Complete an artifact investigation by examining several Native American objects and explaining how each supported daily life.

Assessment:

Write a paragraph explaining how one artifact reflects the culture and traditions of Native American communities.

Jobs

Travel

Homes

Region

Plains Indians

Write a paragraph explaining the culture and traditions of Native American communities.

Name: _____



Connection to the Museum: Our museum's collections preserve artifacts that demonstrate the resilience, knowledge, and traditions of Native peoples throughout the Texas Panhandle.

Grade level targeted: 6th – 8th

Connected learning targets:

Texas History: Analyze how geography influenced Native American cultures.

Science: Explain how humans adapt to their environment.

ELAR: Support claims with evidence.

Objective of lesson:

Students will evaluate how Native American communities adapted to the environment of the Texas Plains while maintaining rich cultural traditions.

Essential Question:

How did geography shape the lives and cultures of Native American peoples on the Texas Plains?

Summary of lesson:

Students investigate: Shelter, Hunting technology, Clothing, Trade, and Seasonal movement

Discussion Questions:

How did geography affect daily life?

Why was the buffalo so important?

How did trade connect different tribes?

What traditions continue today?

Student Activity:

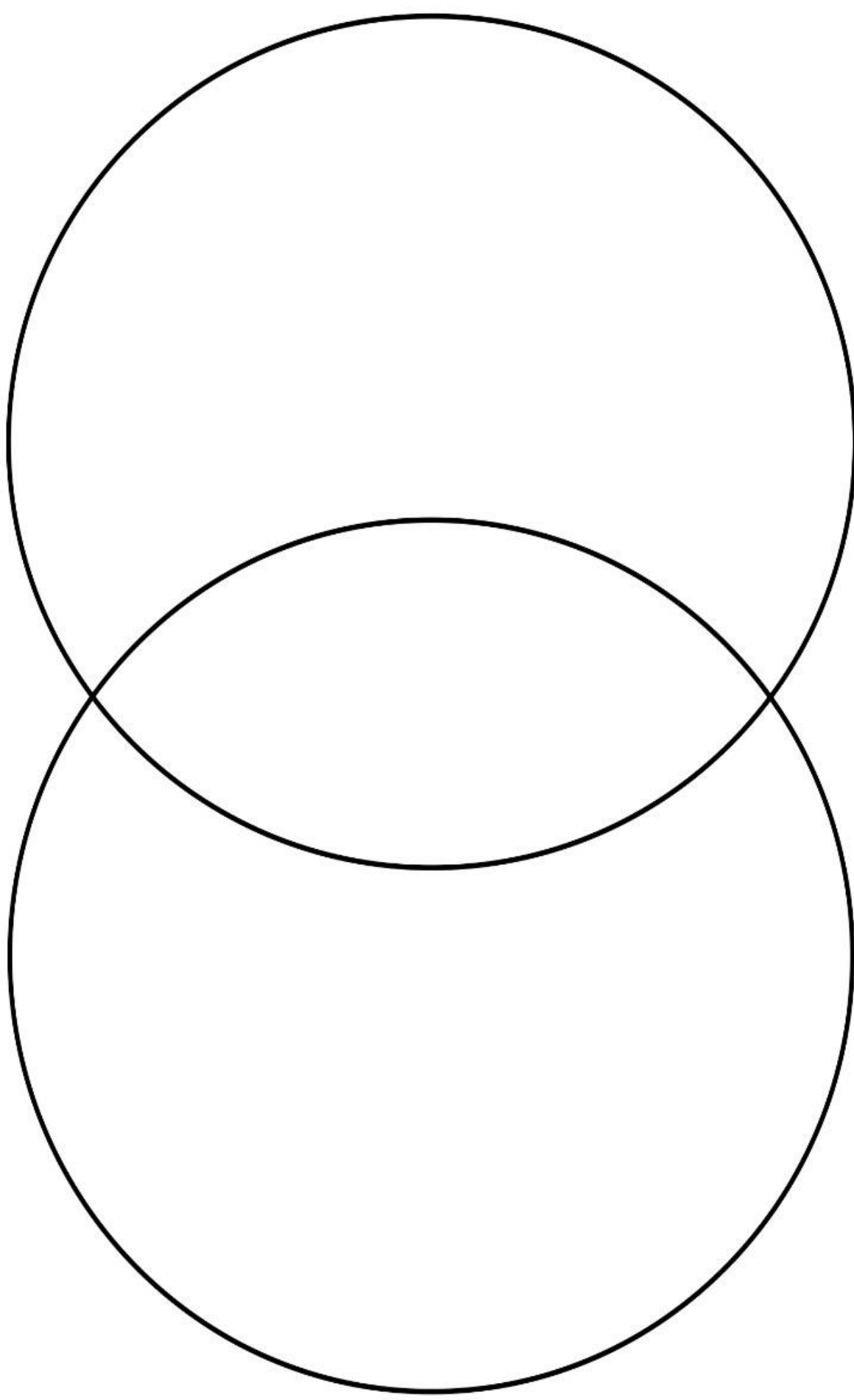
Create a comparison chart showing how Native American communities lived then vs now.

Assessment:

Claim: The environment influenced Native American life by _____.

Evidence: _____.

American Indians Venn Diagram





Connection to the Museum: Our museum's Native American collections help preserve the stories, traditions, and enduring heritage of the Indigenous peoples who have called the Texas Panhandle home for generations.

Grade level targeted: High School

Connected learning:

U.S. History

Texas History

Anthropology

Cultural Studies

Objective of lesson:

Students will evaluate how Native American communities of the Texas Plains adapted to their environment while maintaining cultural traditions that continue today.

Essential Question:

How can museums help preserve and share the history and living cultures of Native American peoples?

Summary of lesson:

Students investigate: Material culture, Trade networks, Environmental adaptation, Oral traditions, and Cultural preservation

Discussion:

How do artifacts help tell cultural stories?

Why is it important to consult descendant communities when interpreting artifacts?

How do museums balance preservation with cultural respect?

How do Native Nations continue to preserve their traditions today?

Student Activity:

Students analyze several artifacts and write a museum exhibit label that explains both the historical use of the object and its cultural significance.

Assessment:

Students write a reflection explaining how studying Native American history helps us better understand the history of the Texas Panhandle and why respecting living cultures is important.

Name: _____

Write a museum exhibit label that explains both the historical use of a Native American object in the museum and its cultural significance.

Name: _____

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Name: _____

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