

Native American Scaffolded Comprehension Passages

WITH EMBEDDED GLOSSARIES TO HELP EL OR STRUGGLING LEARNERS



The collage features several educational components:

- USING NATURE TO SURVIVE**: A passage with a corresponding glossary.
- ARTS**: A passage with a corresponding glossary.
- RELIGION**: A passage with a corresponding glossary.
- THE IROQUOIS**: A passage with a corresponding glossary.
- FAMILY LIFE**: A passage with a corresponding glossary and a table below it.
- HOW DID NATIVE AMERICANS GET WHAT THEY NEEDED?**: A passage with a corresponding glossary.

Topic	Section	Text
FAMILY LIFE	Topic	
	Section	
	Text	



Using nature to survive

Native Americans were good at using resources from nature to survive. They hunted local animals for food. They used their skins for clothing. They built their homes from animal skins and trees. Fishing was also a source of food, but when resources were low, they would gather fruits and nuts or farm small areas of land. Not only did they use resources from nature for practical purposes such as clothing, shelter and food; many tribes also believed these resources had spiritual meaning and could be used for healing. Native Americans survived by using whatever resources they could find.

Resources: something that can be used

Source: a place that something comes from.

Gather: to collect

Practical: good for real , everyday life

Spiritual: having to do with religion, gods, spirits

Healing:

to make sick people better

Things in Nature	How they were used
	Food
Trees	



Religion

Native American religions are very interesting and can teach us a lot about the connection between spirits and our natural environment. According to these beliefs, spirits are found in everything from trees to rocks and even animals. The spirits can be called upon to help with everyday tasks like hunting or gathering food. They believe that they can help people make sense of their lives. By understanding how spirits work together in harmony with nature, leaders of Native American religions are able to give guidance on how to lead good lives.

Environment: everything around us.

According to: as stated by, or following what somebody said

Called upon: to ask or demand that somebody do something.

Harmony: all agree and work together.

Guidance: advice or information.

Reasons that spirits are important:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Arts

Native American art is a perfect example of art that emphasizes culture but is also practical in daily life. For example, some tribes would make beautiful baskets for carrying things around, blankets to keep warm, and pottery that could be used for cooking. The artistic pieces varied from tribe to tribe, but each culture made art that was useful. Art was not only a source of pleasure but served an important role in Native American culture.

Emphasizes: shows importance.

Culture: a way that people live

Practical: good for real , everyday life

Pottery: objects made from clay



Source: where something comes from

Sketch (Draw) a piece of art that you could use everyday:

The Iroquois confederacy

The Iroquois Confederacy joined five tribes from the Northeast United States. The five founding tribes-- Mohawk, Onondaga, Oneida, Cayuga, and Seneca-- called themselves the Haudenosaunee or "people of the longhouse". Each tribe had its own laws and customs but faced decisions together as one nation. They created a Great Law of Peace that outlined how members should act and how their government should be structured using checks and balances., which means that power is shared equally among the group. This Great Law of Peace was created to ensure peace and it is thought to have inspired ideas found in today's U.S. Constitution!

Customs: the way something is usually done.

Faced decisions: made tough decisions.

Outlined: told the important ideas

Structured: built

Inspired: Made somebody want to do something.



How did native Americans get what they needed?

The resources that Native Americans had around them were important in helping them get what they needed. They relied on nature, hunting and fishing to get food while also using resources like wood, rocks and clay to build homes and tools. To get resources they didn't have, they used trade. Products like tools, clothes, and food could be traded with other tribes or countries. Not only did this help tribes get resources they needed, but it also allowed them to make new friendships with people in other places. Trading was important in allowing Native Americans to thrive!

Resources (recursos): something that can be used

Relied: to depend on, know something will help you

Clay: moist, stiff earth that is used to make bricks, pottery.

Thrive: Do well. Be strong.

What are two main ideas from the paragraph?

1. (HINT: RESOURCES)

2. (HINT: TRADE)



Family life

In Native American families, men and women had different responsibilities within the family. Men usually went hunting or fishing for food. This could sometimes take them away from home for days on end. Women, on the other hand, would stay close to home and gather food such as berries and nuts, as well as caring for the home and family. Children also worked hard to help their parents in any way they could - they would help by fetching water and firewood, picking fruit off trees, or tanning animal hides. Having everyone in the family work together was an important part of Native American life.

responsibilities:
things you are supposed to do

Days on end: many days in a row.

Gather: collect

Fetching: getting

Tanning animal hides: turning animal skins into leather.

Men	Women	Children

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