

Native American that lived in the western/northwestern part of the United States



1) What color did the western Indians live in? _____

2) What color did the northwest Indians live in? _____

Great Basin

This is a low-lying region between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California. It is a dry area of grass, scraggly trees and sagebrush. Native people of this area traveled a lot, searching for food and looking for shelter from the extreme heat of the summer and harsh cold of the winter. Seeds and berries were the main foods, but people also ate ducks, rabbits and snakes. If the weather was nice, people camped outdoors. At other times, they slept in pole-and-brush huts or in caves in the hills and canyons. Two Great Basin tribes were the Crow and Nez Perce.

3) How did Native Americans living in the Great Basin area adapt to the environment?

4) Which other Native American group were the Great Basin Indians similar to? (Hint: They were also nomadic) _____

5) What kind of shelters did the Great Basin Indians use? _____

Northwest

The region from northern California to the border of Canada in the Northwest. Winters are cold and summers are cool. The area is known for dense forests, mountains and plenty of rain. People such as the Chinook and Tillamook fished the ocean in canoes and hunted seals and whales with harpoons. They built fences across rivers to trap salmon. In forests they hunted moose, elk and beaver. Since they had plenty of wood, houses were made of planks, and roofs were cedar bark. The American Indians in this region used shells and ivory in their art and carved wood into totem poles.

6) How did the Northwest Indians adapt to the environment they lived in? _____

7) Which other Native American group were the Northwest Indians similar to? (Hint: They had lots of wood too) _____

8) How were the Northwest Indians different than the group you named?

9) What was a totem pole used for and what did it say about their culture?

