

# Unit 1b-The First Americans

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies 5**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Chapter 1**  
Status: **Published**

## Essential Questions

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- How does geography influence how people live?

## Big Ideas

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- Indigenous societies in the western hemisphere migrated and changed in response to the physical environment.
- American Indians both adapted to and modified the geography of their region, creating thriving civilizations in North and South America.
- American Indians used a variety of natural resources to meet their needs for food, clothing, and shelter.
- American Indians prospered by creating diverse ways of life and adapting to the climate, resources, and other geographic factors.
- American Indians developed rich cultural traditions, creating societies with complex economies and governments.

## Document Based Activity

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6.1.5: HistoryUP.4: Compare and contrast gender roles, religion, values, cultural practices, and political systems of Native American groups.

### DBQ Activity

The Land and Early People

In what ways did the Iroquois Nation build an advanced civilization?

For the complete DBQ Plan, please refer to MP 1b - The First Americans PDF

## Social Justice

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See Appendix C

Book 1: [Heroes by Ken Mochizuki](#) (Respect Week)

## **Enduring Understandings**

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### **6.1 U.S. History: America in the World by the End of Grade 5**

#### **History, Culture, and Perspectives: Understanding Perspectives**

6.1.5.HistoryUP.2[M]: Compare and contrast forms of governance, belief systems, and family structures among African, European, and Native American groups.

6.1.5.HistoryUP.4 [M]: Compare and contrast gender roles, religion, values, cultural practices, and political systems of Native American groups.

#### **Geography, People, and the Environment: Human Population Patterns**

6.1.5.GeoPP.5 [M]: Describe how the migration and settlement patterns of Native American groups impacted different regions of the Western Hemisphere.

6.1.5.GeoPP.6: Compare and contrast the voluntary and involuntary migratory experiences of different groups of people and explain why their experiences differed.

#### **Focus Areas**

- Identify how the tribes migrated and settled in North America.
- Describe how the American Indians adapted to the environment of their cultural region.
- Describe how American Indian groups chose leaders and governed themselves.
- Compare and contrast the lives of the different tribes.

#### **Activities and Assessments**

DBQ: The Land and Early People

Venn diagram or chart comparing the various tribes' gender roles, values, practices, and political system

Tests – multiple choice / open-ended

Quest: What's Cooking

## **Curriculum Compacting**

Native American Newspaper project