

Student Name:

Teddy Roosevelt and the Native Americans Research Report

Research Question: Roosevelt's attitudes towards Native Americans was rather complex. Some of the things he said about them were not very nice, but in other cases he was very supportive of Native American social development within the US. How did these attitudes affect US domestic policies? Were Roosevelt's conservation policies influenced by Native Americans?

Directions: Use these questions to guide your research about Roosevelt's comments about Native American people, and then write a report summarizing your findings in your own words. Be sure to include a list of your sources.

1. What were some of the negative comments that Roosevelt made regarding Native Americans that you were able to locate via a web search? Also, locate some of the strongly positive statements that he made about the very same people. (Try to consider the 'context' of Roosevelt's remarks and to whom he made them.)

2. Look for information from Native American sources. Compare the opinions cited by Roosevelt with other web sites that seem more favorable to him. Do they discuss the same details? Try to locate a single source that provides substantial relevant information. Write (in the space below) the name of the source and describe the site author's background.

3. Consider the fact that National Parks were frequently developed on lands that were either on or adjacent to Native American reservations. Also, you might find out during your research that a lot of logging occurs in National Parks. So, many Native American tribes were 'moved' in order to start logging operations in the National Parks where the trees are supposed to be protected. How does this information fit in with your research?

Student Name:

Teddy Roosevelt and the Native Americans Research Report

4. Identify the reasons for Roosevelt's establishment of the National Park System. Do you think that this decision had a long-term impact on the location of Native American settlements? Did Roosevelt want to 'help' or to 'force' Native Americans to adapt Western ways?

What sources did you use for this information?

5. The National Forest system had already been created in 1891. Research the case of the Hoopa Indians in northern California. What were the provisions of their land rights when a National Forest was implemented on their former reservation? Are Native American still trying to recover lands lost to the National Park and National Forest systems in the modern era?

What sources did you use for this information?



Student Name:

Teddy Roosevelt and the Native Americans Research Report

6. Now integrate all of your findings into a brief report about Roosevelt, the park systems and Native American land rights. Feel free to copy and paste phrases or sentences from your answers to the questions above—*as long as they are your own words*. Remember, your report should answer your research question.

