

The American Indians of Texas

Topic 1 Lesson 3

Indigenous Peoples of Texas

- Hunter-gatherer: people who survive by searching for wild plants and animals to eat. Also known as a nomad.
- By about A.D. 900, American Indians in Texas began to evolve into groups and cultures.

Southeastern Peoples

- Caddo Peoples: By about 1200, the Caddoes began to depend more upon farming . By 1500 there may have been as many as 250,000 Caddoes divided into 20 or so clusters of villages.

Atakapan Peoples

- Often traded with the Caddoes.
- They lived in five bands or small tribes spread across the Coastal Plains from Louisiana to Galveston Bay.

Wichita Peoples

- Were shorter and darker than most other Texas Indians. Wichita men had tattoos around their eyes. Women tattooed their faces and bodies with zigzag lines, circles, and triangles.
- Were originally farmers

Discussion

- Which groups made up the Southeastern Peoples of Texas?

Puebloan Peoples

- The Jumano people had villages between the Pecos River and the Rio Grande
- Lived in adobes
- Because of their location, farming was difficult and they had to gather wild plants. They were great traders

Concho Peoples

- Lived near present-day Presidio.
- Grew corn, beans, squash. Women did the farm work and men hunted.
- Disappeared in the late 1600s.

The Tiguas

- Still living in Texas today.
- Similar way of life to the Jumanos and Conchos.
- Tiguas adopted Spanish ways, including the Roman Catholic religion.

Discussion

- Explain the difficulties the Jumanos faced and why.

Western Gulf Peoples

- The Coahuiltecans had hundreds of independent bands.
- Were hunter-gatherers, ate snakes, lizards, armadillos, worms, snails, spiders, and insects.

The Karankawas

- Lived along the Gulf Coast, survived by fishing and by hunting and gathering wild plants. Used canoes to fish.
- Warfare was a way of life. Might have eaten the flesh of their enemies as a way to get revenge or a magical means of capturing the enemies courage or strength.

Discussion

- Why do you think warfare was such a big part of the way of life for the Karankawas?

Plains Peoples

- The Apaches would often raid other Native Peoples camps. Wherever they went, they posed a threat to the people who already lived on the land.
- Six tribes related by a common language

The Comanches

- Emerged as the most effective hunters, traders, warriors, and diplomats in Texas.
- Entire way of life depended on the buffalo. The animals provided clothing, shelter, and most of their food.

The Kiowas

- They were nomads and buffalo hunters who rode horses, lived in tipis, and traveled in bands.
- Celebration of the Sun Dance. Important religious ceremony, lasted three or four days and some men would dance the entire time without sleep.

Discussion

- Based on what you have learned about the American Indians of Texas, which group is the most interesting to you and why? Be specific in your answers.

Pandemics

- Remember Swine Flu, Ebola, and Bird Flu? All of these illnesses were known as pandemics or epidemics. When the Spanish came over to the Americas they brought many diseases with them that essentially wiped out Native American tribes.. In this video we are going to learn how a pandemic spreads.
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UG8YbNbdaco>