

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF AMERICA

Indigenous Peoples are the original inhabitants of North, Central, and South America.

They lived in the Americas for thousands of years before Europeans arrived.

There were many different Indigenous groups, each with its own language, culture, traditions, and way of life.

The environments where Indigenous Peoples lived influenced how they survived.

For example, the Inuit of the Arctic hunted seals and whales and built shelters suited to cold climates.

The Navajo of the Southwest raised sheep and farmed in dry conditions.

The Cherokee of the Eastern Woodlands lived in forested areas and grew crops such as corn, beans, and squash.

Indigenous Peoples developed advanced knowledge of farming, medicine, engineering, and trade.

Many foods eaten around the world today, including corn, potatoes, tomatoes, and cacao,

were first cultivated by Indigenous Peoples. They also created large cities, trade networks, and systems of government.

Today, Indigenous Peoples continue to live throughout the Americas.

Many communities work to preserve their languages, traditions, and cultural heritage while also participating in modern society. Learning about Indigenous Peoples helps us understand the rich history and diversity of the Americas.

## QUESTIONS

- 1.) Why did different Indigenous groups have different ways of life?

-----

- 2.) Name two foods that were first cultivated by Indigenous Peoples.

-----

- 3.) What did the Cherokee grow?

-----

- 4.) What are some areas of knowledge developed by Indigenous Peoples?

-----

- 5.) Why is it important to learn about Indigenous Peoples?

-----