# Illinois Tribes

Learning about the first Native People in Illinois





# Websites to help you out (though you may need to find more!)

### All tribes

https://mrnussbaum.com/history/native-americans

https://www.ducksters.com/history/native\_americans.php

### Illini

http://www.bigorrin.org/illini\_kids.htm

## Kickapoo

http://www.bigorrin.org/kickapoo\_kids.htm

https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/Kickapoo/353336

# Your Task...

- After 1600, new groups of Native Americans migrated to and settled into what is now Illinois.
- Your job today is to research these groups of Native Americans and find out how they were alike and different.



# The Illini or Illiniwek tribe: One of the largest and most powerful groups of Native Americans in Illinois Country

Which smaller groups of Native Americans made up the Illini tribe? (Hint: there are 12!)

Peoria, Kaskaskia, Cahokia, Tamara, Moingwena, Michigamea, Coiracoentanon, Chinko, Chepoussa, Espeminkia,Tapouaro, Maroa Describe how the Illini hunted/gathered. Did they move from place to place? Who was in charge of what (male/female roles)?

Illini would get together and I herd buffalo towards a group of hunters. Women did farming. Men hunted.. They moved from semi-permanent villages to hunting camps. In June, July, and the winter months, the Illini lived in **wigwams.** Describe what a wigwam is here. A wigwam is a dome shaped hut

How was a wigwam built? They were made from bark, reed mats or thatch, spread over a pole frame. In the summer, the Illini lived in longhouses. Describe what a longhouse is here:

e traditional dwelling of the Iroquois and other North American Indians. Describe what daily life was like in an Illini village: (hints: season change, hunting, gathering, harvesting, male/female roles, children):

Illini would get together and herd buffalo towards a group of hunters. Women did farming. Men hunted.. They moved from semi-permanent villages. Illini children did have toys and games, like child-sized bows and arrows and corn husk dolls. Illini teenagers also liked to play lacrosse and other sports. As for babies, Illini mothers, like many Native Americans, traditionally carried their infants in cradleboards on their backs. **Picture collage!** Fill this page with pictures of 5 things you researched on the previous 2 slides about the Illini. Hints: wigwams, their tribe, longhouses, familial roles, etc.



## The Kickapoo: the 1700's

Where did the Kickapoo first settle when they moved to Illinois?

Northern Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana. Describe the traditional dress of the Kickapoo. Were their winter clothes different than spring/summer?

Originally, Kickapoo men wore breechcloth and leggings and Kickapoo women wore wraparound skirts. Shirts were not necessary in the Kickapoo culture, but both men and women did wear deerskin mantles in cool weather. The Kickapoo were skilled farmers. What did they cultivate and how?

The Kickapoo tribe's staple food was corn. Kickapoo women raised corn and baked cornbread called pugna. They also planted squash and beans. Kickapoo men hunted deer and small game



The Kickapoos lived in homes called **wickiups**. Describe what a wickiup was and how it was built

They lived in oval-shaped houses made from a frame of wooden poles covered with bark or woven mats. Describe a day in the life of the Kickapoo tribe. What would the men be doing? Women? Children?

Kickapoo Indian men were hunters and sometimes went to war to protect their families. Kickapoo women were farmers and did most of the child care and cooking.

They do the same things any children do--play with each other, go to school and help around the house. Many Kickapoo children like to go hunting and fishing or camp outdoors. In the past, Indian kids had more chores and less time to play.

# Your turn

Directions: Select one of the below Native American tribes to research and 5 questions from the question list to answer about that tribe. On the next slide, answer your chosen questions in the boxes and then create a collage on the following page.

#### Tribes

- The Cherokee
- The Sioux
- The Chinook
- The Inuit
- The Potawatomi
- The Iroquois
- The Shawnee

#### Questions:

- What is an interesting fact about your selected tribe's culture? (think: ceremonies, beliefs, handmade crafts, etc.)
- 2) What was their **diet** like? (What did they eat)
- 3) What were the **family roles** like?
- 4) What was the traditional **dress/clothing** like? (What was it made of)
- 5) What were their **homes** like?
- 6) What kinds of **weapons/tools** did they use?
- 7) What was their **transportation** like? (canoes? horseback? walking?)
- 8) What other tribes were they **friends** with?

#### Tribe Name: The Cherokee



Answer five questions from the previous slide here. Don't forget to number your questions! **Questions**:

- 2. Crops of corn, beans, squash, and sunflowers. They also gathered berries, nuts and fruit, their animal diet was deer, wild turkeys, and small game and fish.
- 5. Cherokee houses were made of rivercane and plaster, with thatched roofs. They also built larger seven-sided buildings for ceremonial purposes.
- 6. Cherokee hunters used bows and arrows or blowguns to shoot game. Fishermen generally used spears and fishing poles. Warriors fired arrows or fought with a melee weapon like a tomahawk or spear
- 7. Cherokee Indians used to make long dugout canoes from hollowed-out logs. Over land, the Cherokees used dogs as pack animals.
- 8. The Cherokees often fought with their neighbors the Creeks, Chickasaws, and Shawnees, but other times, they were friends and allies of those tribes.

# Picture Collage! Fill this page with 5 things you researched from your selected tribe!

