

THE HAUDENOSAUNEE



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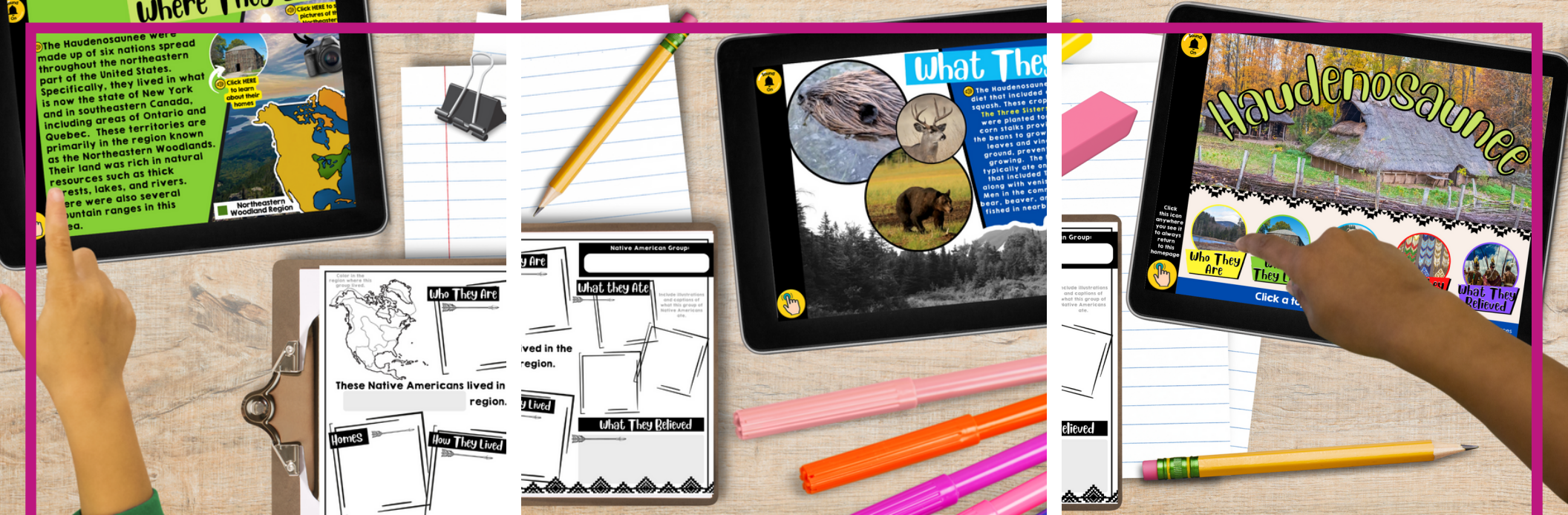
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In The Haudenosaunee LINKtivity, students will dive into the rich culture of these Native Americans. With videos, graphics, audio, and more, they'll uncover the essence of the Haudenosaunee people - their North American habitats, unique homes, foods they ate, daily routines, beliefs, and the vital role of storytelling in shaping their worldview.



Where They Lived

The Haudenosaunee were made up of six nations spread throughout the northeastern part of the United States and in southeastern Canada, including areas of Ontario and Quebec. These territories are primarily in the region known as the Northeastern Woodlands. Their land was rich in natural resources such as thick forests, lakes, and rivers. There were also several mountain ranges in this area.

Click HERE to see pictures of the Northeastern Woodlands.

Click HERE to learn about their homes.

Northeastern Woodland Region

LEGEND

Hiawatha

The Haudenosaunee Confederation, also known as the Iroquois Confederacy or Six Nations Confederacy, is a historic union of indigenous nations famous for its democracy. It is made up of six nations: Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, and Tuscarora. This union established a set of rules and principles known as the "Great Law of Peace." This agreement ensured the protection of democracy and fairness among the nations. Each member nation has its own council of chiefs, who appoint representatives to the central Grand Council for group decision-making.

Haudenosaunee, includes representatives from each member nation, and oversees matters of common interest.

Click the video to learn more about the Confederacy.

Snapshots

Use the button on the camera to scroll through the photos.

How They Lived

The Haudenosaunee lived in villages under a clan system. Each village had at least 3 clans which were named after animals. Each clan had its own longhouse and was run by the clan mother. The clan mother would select a man to be a chief to represent their clan at the village tribal council. Men had other responsibilities like building their homes, making tools, and hunting animals. Women were in charge of growing the food, cooking the meals, and making clothing. Both men and women made decisions for their community. Children learned skills and chores from their elders.

What They Ate

The Haudenosaunee mostly ate a diet that included corn, beans, and squash. These crops were known as the Three Sisters because they were planted together. The tall corn stalks provided support for the beans to grow, while the squash leaves and vines covered the ground, preventing weeds from growing. The Haudenosaunee typically ate one big meal a day that included the Three Sisters along with venison, or deer meat. Men in the community also hunted bear, beaver, and moose. They also fished in nearby bodies of water.

LEGEND

Hiawatha

One of the most famous leaders of the Haudenosaunee Native Americans was Hiawatha. He is a legendary peace chief of the Haudenosaunee tribes, and one of the founders of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. According to the oral tradition of the Haudenosaunee people, Hiawatha played a significant role in persuading the leaders of the five Haudenosaunee nations- Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca- to come together in peace. Then in 1715, a sixth tribe, the Tuscarora, joined the confederacy which led to the league being referred to as the "Six Nations."

THE CONFEDERACY

This Haudenosaunee Confederation, also known as the Iroquois Confederacy or Six Nations Confederacy, is one of the oldest democracies in the world. It is believed to have been formed around the late 16th century or early 17th century and is considered one of the earliest examples of a democratic federation in North America. It was formed to help protect each other, offer support when dealing with other groups of people, and to promote peace among the member nations. The Grand Council of the Haudenosaunee had representatives from each nation who worked together to take care of the things all nations cared about.

Click HERE to learn more about the Haudenosaunee Confederation.

LEGEND

Deganawida

Deganawida is an important figure in Haudenosaunee oral tradition. He is often referred to as The Great Peacemaker. He is said to have joined Hiawatha, the legendary peace chief of the Haudenosaunee tribes, in his mission to unite the six nations. Together, they traveled among the Haudenosaunee nations, advocating for peace, cooperation, and the establishment of the Great Law of Peace.

GREAT LAW OF PEACE

The Great Law of Peace is very important for the Native American tribes of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. It tells the six nations of the Confederacy how to work together. The Great Law of Peace also explains the roles and responsibilities of each nation and even includes guidelines for helping the nations make fair decisions. Because of this, Deganawida is considered an extremely important person in the Haudenosaunee culture because he helped make these rules and brought peace to the tribes.

LEGEND

Longhouses

The Haudenosaunee lived in homes called longhouses. These were long, narrow buildings with arched roofs and doorways on both ends. They were made of wooden frames and covered with tree bark shingles. Furs also lined the walls of the longhouse to keep them warm. Inside the homes were platforms for sitting and sleeping.

Click the video to tour a longhouse.

Northeastern Woodland Region

What They Believed

Religion was important to the Haudenosaunee people. They believed everything around them had a spirit. These spirits controlled the crops, animals, and the weather. They also believed in a powerful creator called the Great Spirit. Ceremonies were held to honor and give thanks to the Great Spirit and to celebrate a good harvest. However, they believed that the Great Spirit had an evil twin brother that caused suffering.

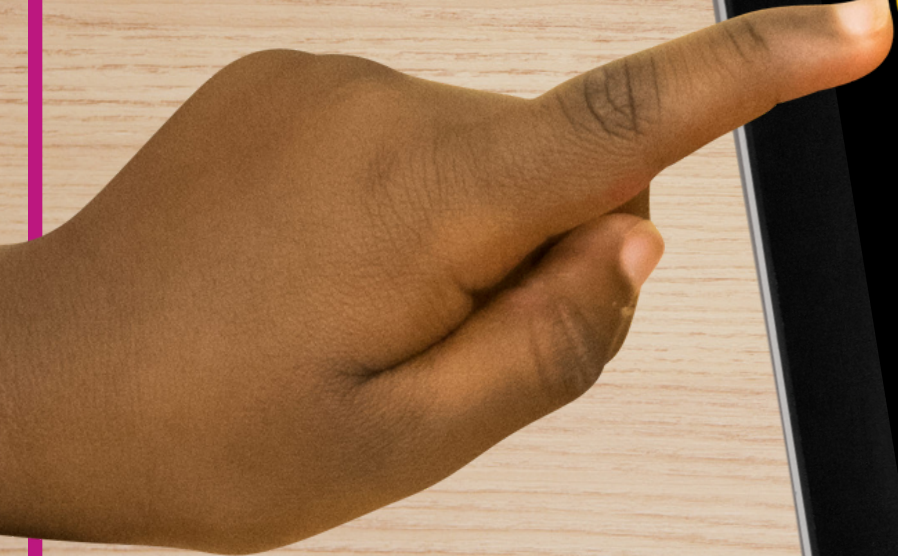
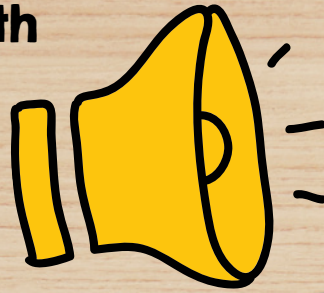
Storytelling

Storytelling was very important to the Haudenosaunee. Since they did not have a written language, they would use beads to weave images onto belts called wampum. The wampum belts were then used to tell stories and share messages. They would gather together in the longhouses to hear their elders' stories about their history or to teach the creation of the world.

Click the video to learn more about wampum belts.

This LINKtivity is provided with

AUDIO SUPPORT



Perfect for English
language learners or
students who could use
a little extra support!

what They Believed

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Click the video to learn more about wampum belts.

Sound On

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Printable & Digital Student Recording Sheet

Printable Recording Sheet for LINKtivity

Color in the region where this group lived.



Who They Are

Native American Group:

What they Ate Include illustrations and captions of what this group of Native Americans ate.

These Native Americans lived in the _____ region.

Homes

How They Lived

What They Believed



Digital Recording Sheet for ANY Native American Tribe LINKtivity in Google Slides

