

THE NAVAJO



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Interactive Learning Guides

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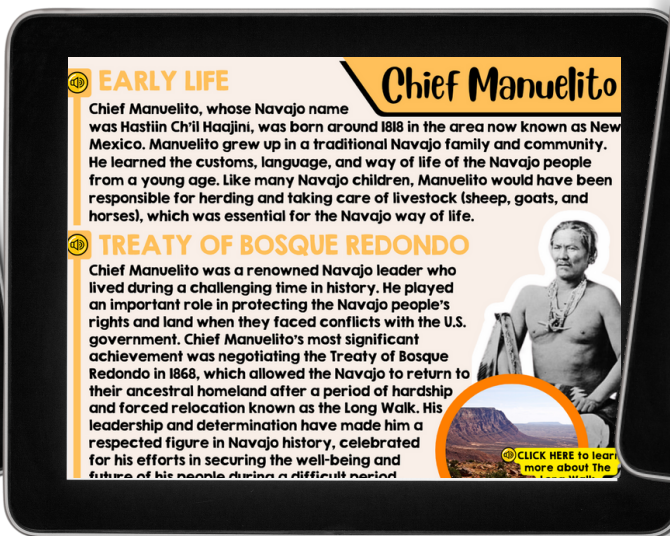


JOIN NOW





In The Navajo 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 Navajo people - their North American habitats, unique homes, foods they ate, daily routines, beliefs, and the vital role of storytelling in shaping their worldview.



More Sample Slides

Who They Are

10 The Navajo are one of the Native American groups with a rich history. They are known for their beautiful art and strong leaders. The Navajo call themselves 'Dine' which means 'the people'

11 To find out more about this legendary leader, simply click the picture.

12 Chief Manuelito

13 CLICK HERE to learn about the Navajo People of Today

14 Click the video to learn more about the Navajo

EARLY LIFE

Chief Manuelito

10 In the winter of 1864-1865, approximately 8,000 Navajo men, women, and children were forced to walk from their homeland to an area called Bosque Redondo in eastern New Mexico. The journey, which became known as the 'Long Walk,' covered around 300 miles and was marked by suffering, illness, and death. Many Navajo people died from hunger and disease during the walk. The Long Walk was a sad and tragic time for the Navajo people and life at Bosque Redondo was not good. They didn't have enough food, shelter, or clean water. The Navajo endured these harsh conditions for several years. In 1868, the Navajo signed an agreement with the U.S. government called the Treaty of Bosque Redondo. This treaty allowed the Navajo people to return to their ancestral homeland.

11 for his efforts in securing the well-being and future of his people during a difficult period.

12 Click the video to learn more about The Long Walk.

Where They Lived

10 Click the video to see an aerial view of the Southwest Region

11 At first, the Navajo nation lived in northwest Canada and parts of Alaska before settling in the southwest region in what is now present-day New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and Utah. The land where they lived had many mountains, canyons, deserts and forests.

12 Click HERE to see pictures of the Southwest Region

13 Click HERE to learn about their homes

14 Where the Navajo once lived

15 Southwest Region

EARLY LIFE

Chief Manuelito

10 Chief Manuelito, whose Navajo name was Hastiin Ch'il Haajini, was born around 1818 in the area now known as New Mexico. Manuelito grew up in a traditional Navajo family and community. He learned the customs, language, and way of life of the Navajo people from a young age. Like many Navajo children, Manuelito would have been responsible for herding and taking care of livestock (sheep, goats, and horses), which was essential for the Navajo way of life.

11 TREATY OF BOSQUE REDONDO

12 Chief Manuelito was a renowned Navajo leader who lived during a challenging time in history. He played an important role in protecting the Navajo people's rights and land when they faced conflicts with the U.S. government. Chief Manuelito's most significant achievement was negotiating the Treaty of Bosque Redondo in 1868, which allowed the Navajo to return to their ancestral homeland after a period of hardship and forced relocation known as the Long Walk. His leadership and determination have made him a respected figure in Navajo history, celebrated for his efforts in securing the well-being and future of his people during a difficult period.

13 CLICK HERE to learn more about The Long Walk

Snapshots

10 Use the [left arrow] button on the camera to scroll through the photos.

11 mountain goat

What They Ate

10 Early Navajo people were not originally farmers. However, when they moved from Canada to the Southwest region, the Pueblo people already living there taught them to farm. In the Southwest, farming was done during the summer when their fields would flood, helping crops grow. The Navajo also learned another farming method called dry farming. They used terraced (or stepped) fields to catch water runoff. The Navajo grew corn, beans, squash, and fruit. They also gathered berries and other wild plants. In addition to plants, the Navajo people were semi-nomadic, which means they moved their livestock to find grazing areas and seasonal resources. They raised animals like sheep and goats which provided wool, milk, and meat. The Navajo also hunted animals for food including deer, rabbits, mountain goats, and prairie dogs.

What They Believed

10 Religion was important to the Navajo people, and their ways of honoring their gods included praying, singing songs, and dancing. Medicine men led their people through dances, ceremonies, and rituals, which were used for healing and bringing blessings to their people.

11 Storytelling was also part of Navajo culture. They used stories to teach their people about history or lessons. Storytellers would often share their stories through pottery or other art. The Navajo are known for their stories about evil spirits known as skinwalkers. These skinwalkers were believed to travel at night wearing animal skins; it was considered to be bad luck to speak of them.

12 Click the video to listen to the story! Spider Woman Teaches the Navajo

How They Lived

10 The Navajo had many different jobs throughout their land. Men were farmers, warriors, hunters, and medicine men. Some men even learned to make art, specifically silver jewelry which often featured beautiful turquoise stones. Navajo women were known for their weaving skills. Girls would learn chores from their mothers while boys would learn how to herd and take care of livestock from their fathers. Children also had time to play and enjoy games.

Where They Lived

10 Navajo homes were called hogans. They were often round-shaped homes with six or eight sides. They were about 20 feet wide and constructed using logs, wooden poles, and mud or clay for the walls. Inside the hogan, there was a central fire pit for heating and cooking, as well as a smoke hole in the roof to allow smoke to escape. The doors of these homes always faced the east to welcome the rising sun. The Navajo believed this brought them blessings and symbolized the beginning of the day and the renewal of life.

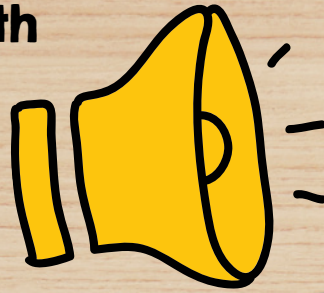
11 once lived

12 Southwest Region



This LINKtivity is provided with

AUDIO SUPPORT



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

Chief Manuelito

EARLY LIFE

Chief Manuelito, whose Navajo name was Hastiin Ch'il Haajini, was born around 1818 in the area now known as Mexico. Manuelito grew up in a traditional Navajo family and community. He learned the customs, language, and way of life of the Navajo people from a young age. Like many Navajo children, Manuelito would have been responsible for herding and taking care of livestock (sheep, goats, and horses), which was essential for the Navajo way of life.

TREATY OF BOSQUE REDONDO

Chief Manuelito was a renowned Navajo leader who lived during a challenging time in history. He played an important role in protecting the Navajo people's rights and land when they faced conflicts with the U.S. government. Chief Manuelito's most significant achievement was negotiating the Treaty of Bosque Redondo in 1868, which allowed the Navajo to return to their ancestral homeland after a period of hardship and forced relocation known as the Long Walk. His leadership and determination have made him a respected figure in Navajo history, celebrated for his efforts in securing the well-being and future of his people during a difficult period.

CLICK HERE for more on the Long Walk



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 all Native American Tribe LINKtivities in Google Slides

