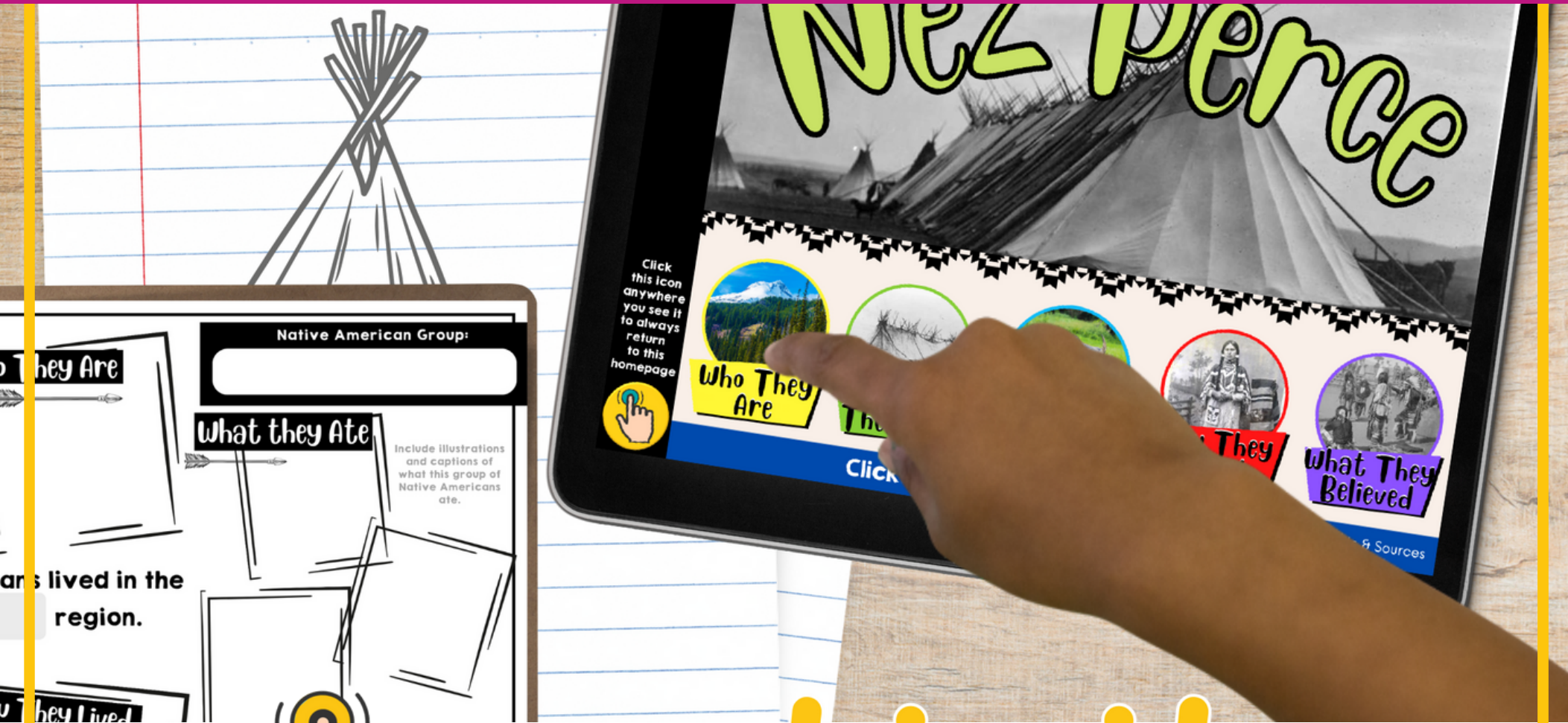


THE NEZ PERCE



LNK **Activity**
Interactive Learning Guides

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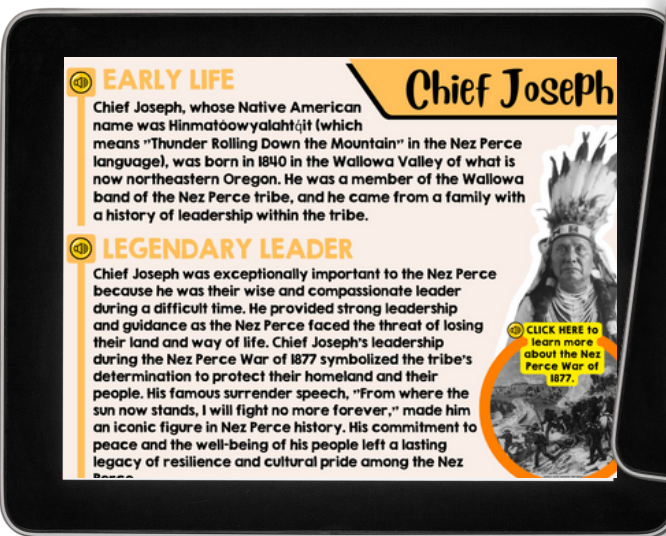
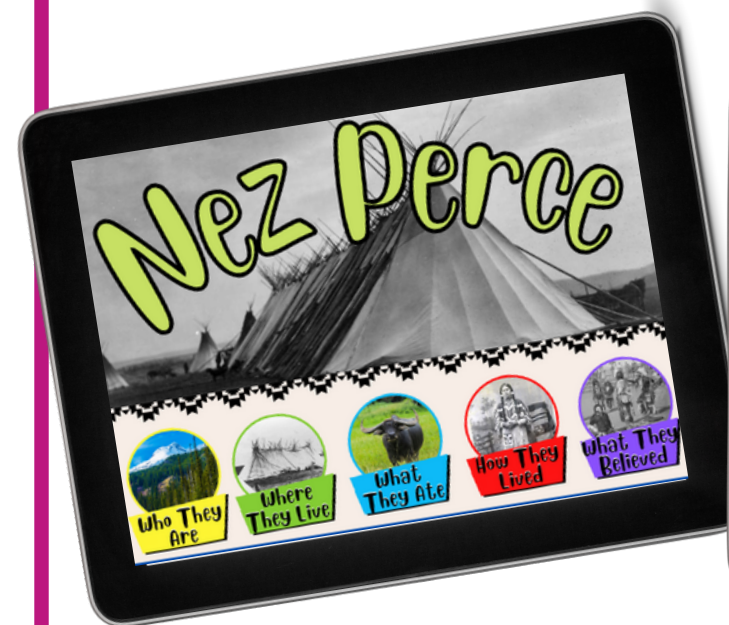


JOIN NOW





In The Nez Perce 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 Nez Perce 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

The Nez Perce are one of the Native American groups with a rich history. They are known for their fishing skills.

Today, the Nez Perce Tribe is primarily located on the Nez Perce Reservation, which spans parts of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. They have their own tribal government with elected leaders who make important decisions about the tribe. The Nez Perce take great pride in their culture and traditions. They teach younger generations their native language, arts, crafts, and dances. They take part in farming, forestry, fishing, and tourism. The tribe is committed to protecting natural resources within and around their reservation. However, like many Native American groups, the Nez Perce also face ongoing challenges, including issues related to land rights and treaty rights. Yet, the Nez Perce continue to thrive, preserving their culture and traditions while adapting to the modern world.




Click the video to learn how horses help keep Nez Perce traditions alive today.

Who They Are

The Nez Perce are one of the Native American groups with a rich history. They are known for their fishing skills, horsemanship, and religious beliefs. During the Lewis and Clark explorations of the west of 1804-1806, the Nez Perce provided valuable supplies and guidance to the explorers, which is recorded in the expedition's journal. The name "Nez Perce" came from French-speaking fur trappers and traders and means "pierced nose." However, this name is misleading since the Nez Perce didn't practice nose piercing as a cultural tradition. The Nez Perce call themselves "Nimlipuu," which means "the people" in their language.

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



CLICK HERE to learn about the Nez Perce People of Today

What They Believed

Religion played a large role in the Nez Perce culture. They had special ceremonies and rituals that centered around nature. They also believed that they had guardian spirits. In fact, the **Guardian Spirit Dance** was a ceremony held in winter. During this ceremony young people would sing and dance to connect with their guardian spirit. There were also special war dances when the tribe prepared for battle.

Storytelling was important to the Nez Perce. Both men and women told stories to share about the tribe's culture, history, and land. Some of their stories included characters like **Coyote**. In these stories, Coyote is often a trickster.



Click the video to listen to a Nez Perce war chant song.

How They Lived

Nez Perce families lived in small villages, often near salmon streams. Men and boys of each tribe's village worked together to fish, hunt, and care for their horses. They also fought to keep their families and the land safe. Some men were also chiefs and healers. Women took care of the children and were in charge of running the home. Both women and girls dried salmon, gathered the harvest, and made meals for their families. They also made dresses, leggings, and moccasins from **buckskin**. The clothing was often decorated with colorful beads.



Chief Joseph


EARLY LIFE

Chief Joseph, whose Native American name was Hinmatowiyalahtit (which means "Thunder Rolling Down the Mountain" in the Nez Perce language), was born in 1840 in the Wallowa Valley of what is now northeastern Oregon. He was a member of the Wallowa band of the Nez Perce tribe, and he came from a family with a history of leadership within the tribe.

LEGENDARY LEADER

Chief Joseph was exceptionally important to the Nez Perce because he was their wise and compassionate leader during a difficult time. He provided strong leadership and guidance as the Nez Perce faced the threat of losing their land and way of life. Chief Joseph's leadership during the Nez Perce War of 1877 symbolized the tribe's determination to protect their homeland and their people. His famous surrender speech, "From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever," made him an iconic figure in Nez Perce history. His commitment to peace and the well-being of his people left a lasting legacy of resilience and cultural pride among the Nez Perce.

CLICK HERE to learn more about the Nez Perce War of 1877.



Snapshots




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

EARLY LIFE

Chief Joseph


The Nez Perce War of 1877 was a sad and tragic event. Also known as the Nez Perce War, this battle was fought between the Nez Perce Native Americans and the U.S. government over land. When the U.S. government tried to force the Nez Perce onto a smaller reservation, the tribe refused. Chief Joseph and his people tried to run but were chased by the U.S. Army for over 1,000 miles with battles along the way. The Nez Perce War came to an end in October 1877 when Chief Joseph and his people were surrounded and forced to surrender just 40 miles from Canada. The Nez Perce were exhausted and starving, and they could not continue their flight. When he surrendered, Chief Joseph is famous for saying, "From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."

Click the video to learn more about the Nez Perce War.



How They Lived

The Nez Perce lived in large groups with up to 30 families living together in long, A-shaped homes, which are commonly referred to as "Nez Perce pit houses." These houses had a pole frame that was covered with mats made from materials like tree bark, dried grass, and reeds. These houses were partially built underground, like a cozy burrow. This way, the Nez Perce stayed warm in the winter and cool in the summer. However, the specific type of dwelling used by the Nez Perce depended on factors like the season, the availability of resources, and their location. Therefore, they also built smaller homes that could be built quickly.



Northwest Region

Where They Lived

Click the video to see an aerial view of the Northwest Region.

CLICK HERE to see pictures of the Northwest Region.

CLICK HERE to learn about their homes.

The Nez Perce nation lived in the plateaus just outside the northwest region in what is now present-day Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The weather in this part of the country could vary in temperature with cold winters and warmer summers.

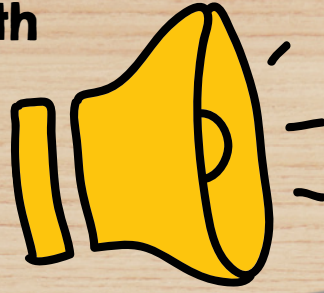


Northwest Region
★ Nez Perce Nation



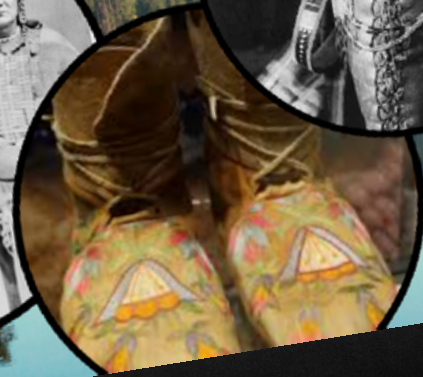
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AUDIO SUPPORT



How They Lived

Nez Perce families lived in small villages, often near salmon streams. Men and boys of each tribe's village worked together to fish, hunt, and care for their horses. They also fought to keep their families and the land safe. Some men were also **chiefs** and **healers**. Women took care of the children and were in charge of running the home. Both women and girls dried salmon, gathered the harvest, and made meals for their families. They also made dresses, leggings, and moccasins from **buckskin**. The clothing was often decorated with colorful beads.




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



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 of our Native American Tribe LINKtivities in Google Slides

