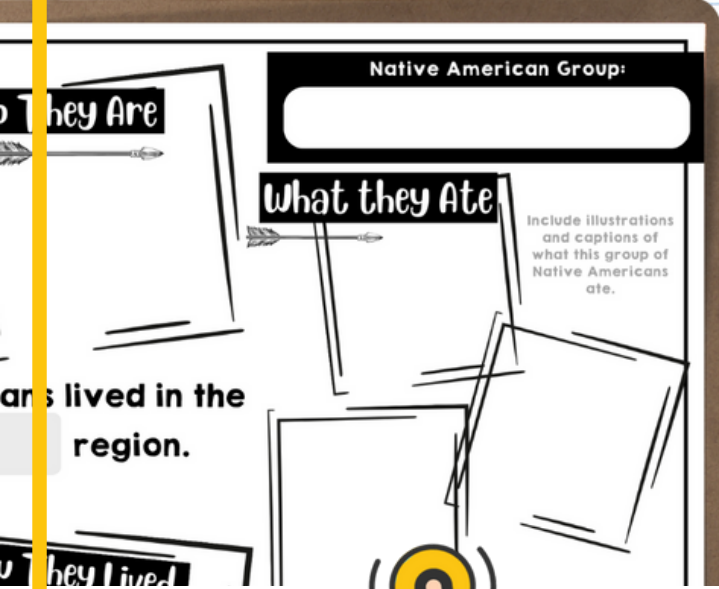


# THE SIOUX



  
Interactive Learning Guides

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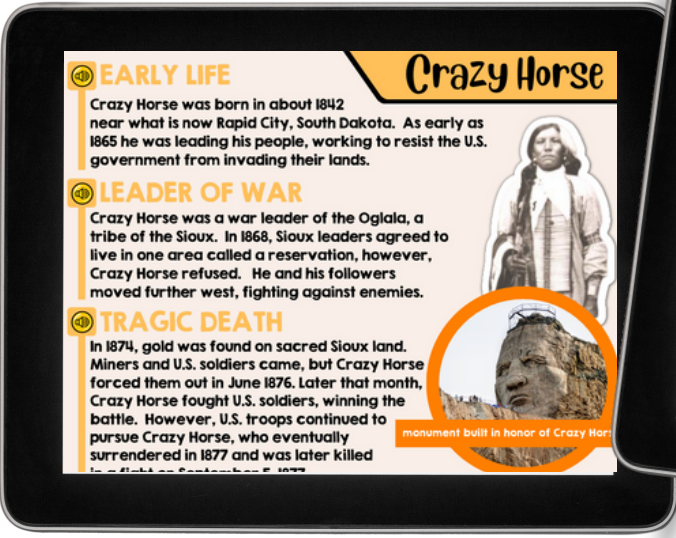
**JOIN NOW**







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





## EARLY LIFE

### Crazy Horse



Crazy Horse was born in about 1842 near what is now Rapid City, South Dakota. As early as 1865 he was leading his people, working to resist the U.S. government from invading their lands.

## LEADER OF WAR

Crazy Horse was a war leader of the Oglala, a tribe of the Sioux. In 1868, Sioux leaders agreed to live in one area called a reservation, however, Crazy Horse refused. He and his followers moved further west, fighting against enemies.

## TRAGIC DEATH

In 1874, gold was found on sacred Sioux land. Miners and U.S. soldiers came, but Crazy Horse forced them out in June 1876. Later that month, Crazy Horse fought U.S. soldiers, winning the battle. However, U.S. troops continued to pursue Crazy Horse, who eventually surrendered in 1877 and was later killed in a fight on September 5, 1877.

monument built in honor of Crazy Horse

## Where They Lived

Most of the Sioux moved around a lot in search for food. Because of this, they lived in cone-shaped homes called teepees made of wooden poles and buffalo skins. The shape of the teepee helped air move around inside, which made it not too hot in the summer and not too cold in the winter. These homes were easy to set up and move. Inside the teepees the Sioux could build small fires to be used for cooking and keeping warm. On the outside of the teepees, the men would paint important pictures with special meanings. The teepee had a small hole at the top where smoke could escape. When it rained or snowed, this hole could be closed with a piece of buffalo skin.



Click the video to learn more about the Great Plains.

Click the video to watch a teepee being made!


Click HERE to see pictures of the plains

Click HERE to learn about their homes

Great Plains

## Where They Lived

The Sioux originally lived near Lake Superior in what is now Minnesota. In the mid 1700s, war with other tribes drove the Sioux further west and into the Great Plains. They spread throughout the plains region in what is now present-day Minnesota, North & South Dakota, Montana, Nebraska, Iowa, and Wisconsin. The plains provided grassy lands where the Sioux could farm and hunt. There were no large bodies of water, so the Sioux relied on smaller lakes and rivers for water.



Click HERE to see pictures of the plains

Click HERE to learn about their homes

Great Plains

## What They Ate

The Sioux people were hunters and gatherers. They were nomads, which meant they moved around a lot. They used bows and arrows to hunt for food like deer and buffalo. They would also gather berries and wild rice. The buffalo was a particularly important food source for the Sioux. Not only did it provide meat to eat, but the skins could be used to make clothing. The skins were also used to wrap around their teepee poles for shelter.







## Snapshots



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


## How They Lived

Because the Sioux moved around a lot, they would set up camps across the plains. Within the camps, everyone had specific jobs. Men would hunt for food and fight in wars when needed. Men would teach and train the boys to do the same. Sioux men gained status in their communities by performing brave deeds in war. Some men would become medicine men or chiefs. Medicine men were the spiritual leaders and healers in their nation. Women and girls on the other hand would cook the meals, gather food and run the camps. Sioux women were skilled at porcupine-quill and bead embroidery.



## Who They Are

The Sioux are an alliance of Native American tribes. There were around 108,000 Sioux people in the United States. Most of them lived on special areas called reservations in places like Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Another 10,000 Sioux lived in Canada. On the reservations, they kept their special Sioux traditions alive. They learned their Native American languages, stories, and important customs. Older Sioux people passed down their knowledge to the younger ones, so the Sioux culture would keep going strong. Now, in the 2000s, Sioux people are still an important part of Native American history. They're finding ways to balance their old traditions with the modern world, and they're working to make sure their culture stays alive and strong.



Click the video to listen to a story about Coyote, the trickster.


the Sioux People of Today

## What They Believed

Religion played an important role with the Sioux people. They believed that animals, plants, and all things have power. If the Sioux people behaved well, the powers would help them. However, if they behaved poorly, the powers would hurt them.

The medicine men would lead their tribe in special dances and ceremonies to honor these powers. The Sun Dance, in particular was a ceremony that took place in late spring or early summer. At the ceremonies, people would share their dreams and visions with each other as a way to talk to the powerful spirits.

Storytelling was important to the Sioux. They used stories to teach each other about history and lessons. They would sometimes draw symbols to go along with their stories. Coyote and Iktomi (spider spirits) were often important characters in Sioux stories. They were often tricksters. Storytelling was a way to pass down ideas and beliefs to new generations.



Click the video to listen to a story about Coyote, the trickster.

## EARLY LIFE

### Sitting Bull



Sitting Bull belonged to the Lakota tribe, also called Teton Sioux. He was born around 1831 by the Grand River in what's now South Dakota. His Sioux name was Tatanka Iyotake. Around 1867, he became the chief of all the Sioux people.

## FIGHTING BATTLES

Sitting Bull spent many years fighting against U.S. soldiers. Problems came when gold was discovered on Native American land. The U.S. government said the Sioux had to move, but Sitting Bull didn't agree and got ready to fight. On June 25, 1876, U.S. soldiers attacked by Little Bighorn River, but Sitting Bull and his people fought back. After the fighting, the US soldiers were all dead.

## A LIFE CUT SHORT

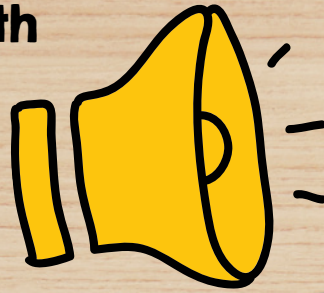
After a life of trying to protect his land and his people, Sitting Bull was arrested by U.S. soldiers because they were afraid he would cause trouble. On December 15, 1890, Sitting Bull was killed by U.S. soldiers, even as his warriors were trying to save him.



This LINKtivity is provided with

# AUDIO SUPPORT



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

## Where They Live

Click the video to learn more about the Great Plains.

Click HERE to learn about their homes

Click HERE to see pictures of the

The Sioux originally lived near Lake Superior in what is now Minnesota. In the mid 1700s, war with other tribes drove the Sioux further west and into the Great Plains. They spread throughout the plains region in what is now present-day Minnesota, North & South Dakota, Montana, Nebraska, Iowa, and Wisconsin. The plains provided grassy lands where the Sioux could farm and hunt. There were no large bodies of water, so the Sioux relied on smaller lakes and rivers for water.

Great Plains

Lake Superior





# 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

