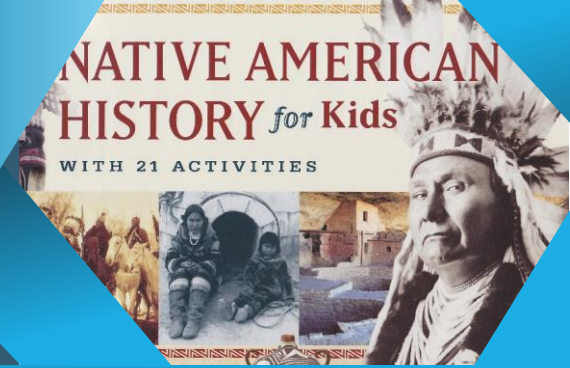


NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY FOR KIDS DISCUSSION GUIDE



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About This Book

When North America was “discovered” in the late 1400s, millions of people already lived here. *Native American History for Kids* captures the early history of the native populations and their 500-year struggle for survival from disease, war, displacement, and broken treaties. Readers will learn about the history of native culture and why the history of Native Americans is the history of all Americans.

Pre-Reading Activity

What do you know about the history of Native Americans? Where did you learn what you know? Think about what you know or think you know as you read *Native American History for Kids*.

Discussion Questions

- What is cultural bias and how does that involve Native American history?
- Hundreds of abandoned cliff dwellings were found in the southwest United States by European explorers in the late 1800s. Who lived in these cliff dwellings and what happened to the people?
- Early native people, particularly Plains people, were known to leave pictures or “pictographs.” Why did they do this, and what did the pictures mean?
- Were Native American people living the eastern United States the same as people belonging to Plains tribes or living in the western United States? Consider DNA, language, and food.
- This book talks about assimilation. What happens to language and culture during assimilation? Can you give examples?
- What is significant Ishi’s story in Chapter 2?
- Westward Expansion is an important part of American History. The Louisiana Purchase more than doubled the size of the United States. What effect did Westward Expansion have on many Native American nations and tribes?
- Compare the way native people hunted with the way of white hunters. How did this affect the buffalo?
- Describe the 1890 event at Wounded Knee. Some people refer to it as a battle; others as a massacre. What do you think and why?
- What does the “Trail of Tears” refer to? Who was affected and in what ways were they affected?
- In the late 19th and early 20th century, boarding schools were forced on many native families. What happened to the children who attended these boarding schools? Did boarding schools do more to help or harm the children attending them?
- Describe life on reservations. Was the Urban Relocation Program a success? Why or why not?
- People in modern society come from all different backgrounds and cultures, including Native Americans. Who was the most interesting person of Native American heritage that you learned about in this book? Will you try to learn more about him or her?