

## Early Americans.

- Many scientists believe that people first arrived in North America during the last Ice Age.
- Historians rely on archaeology (the study of the unwritten past) and artifacts (remains of objects made by humans) to determine when people crossed into North America.
- Artifacts suggest that Paleo-Indians, the first Americans, crossed into Alaska from Asia sometime between 38,000 and 10,000 b.c. across Beringia, a land bridge.

## Early Americans.

- Warmer weather at the end of the Ice Age created many new environments.
- Different **environments** influenced or shaped the development of Native American cultures (way of life!).
- The development of agriculture allowed many Native American groups to settle in villages and led to the rise of larger and more complex societies.

## "Granddaddy of Indian Cultures".

- Olmec: "Mother Culture" developed writing w/ glyphs and used stone in architecture.
- Maya: Great mathematicians and astronomers. Large pyramids/stone temples.
- Aztec: Great wealth acquired through conquering other Indian groups.
- Inca: Great roads in Andes of South America.
- Anasazi: Pueblo builders and grew maize.
- Hopewell and Mississippians: Burial and ceremonial mound builders.

## The Far North.

- Includes the Arctic and Subarctic region.
- Few plants because of harsh environment.
- Include the Aleut, Inuit, Dogrib and Montagnais Indian groups.
- Fishing and hunting large animals.
- Kayaks, igloos and log houses!?

## The Pacific Coast.

- A mild climate.
- Rich supply of game, sea life and wild plants and farming not necessary.
- Include the Chinook and Nootka in the northwestern part.
- Totems and Potlatches.
- Include the Pomo, Miwok and Yokuts in lower California region.

## The West and Southwest.

- Less resources than the far west because of less rainfall in Plateau.
- Included the Walla Walla and Nez Perce.
- Hunted small game (crickets and rabbits), fished and gathered plants.
- Drier climates in the Great Basin region.
- Include the Paiute, Shoshone and the Ute.
- Apache, Navajo (more warrior like) and Pueblo (more religious) in southwest 4 corner region.

## The Great Plains.

- Mainly grassland with great game.
- Included the Mandan and Pawnee (matrilineal).
- Grew crops such as beans, maize and squash.
- Also included the Blackfoot, Arapaho, Comanche.
- Great hunters of buffalo.

## The East.

- Great resources for food and shelter: Forests: Longhouses and wigwams.
- Included the Cherokee, Creek and Seminole in the southeast farming villages.
- Algonquian in Northeast relied mainly on farming and plant gathering.
- Iroquois (Northeast-Great Lakes) and their great league: Most powerful peoples in North America.
- Wampanoag lived south of Iroquois in the Northeast-First to meet pilgrims.

## Europe During the Middle Ages.

- The Vikings in North America: Leif Eriksson and Vinland 500 years before Columbus.
- The Middle Ages lasted from about A.D. 500 to 1500.
- A New Government developed called feudalism.
- People lived on large estates called manors.
- Life of nobility and peasants differed.
- The Catholic Church was the center of religious and social life.
- Christianity influenced culture and politics.
- Monasteries and convents were important to Christian men and women.
- Travel in the early middle ages dangerous and limited. People keep to manors during this age of feudalism (Black Death).

## Europe During the Middle Ages.

- Monarchs built new nations.
- Nobles eventually lost power.
- Magna Carta limited English monarchs' power and protected some individual rights.
- Trade expanded to Asia and Africa.
- Cities grew.
- Agricultural innovations led to population growth (Crop Rotation and watermills).

## Europe During the Middle Ages

- The Crusades, even though unsuccessful, introduces the Europeans to riches of the eastern world.
- Crusades fuel new thinking (a rebirth or renaissance) and new inventions like the astrolabe and magnetic compass fuels passion for exploration! (Guttenberg and the Printing Press).
- Middle Ages come to an end with the start of the Age of Exploration (notes to follow).