

NATIVE AMERICANS - KEY

1. How and when did Native Americans get to the American continent ? **during the last Ice Age about 20,000 years ago from Siberia across the Bering Strait**
2. Why are they also called "Indians" ? **Columbus thought he had reached India**
3. Why did Europeans force Native Americans off their land? **they needed land for mining, farming and settlements**
4. What happened in California in the 1850s? **gold was found**
5. Where did the government start relocating Indians at the beginning of the 20th century ? **to reservations in the western and southwestern part**
6. What animal was important for the Native Americans of the Great Plains region ? What was it used for ? **buffalo ; it provided food as well as skin for clothing**
7. How did they preserve meat ? **by smoking it or drying it in the sun**
8. What did boys have to go through as they got older ? **they lived alone in the wilderness, they were tested for their bravery and strength**
9. What were clothes often made of ? **animal skins and furs**
10. What kind of houses did Pueblo Indians build ? **houses made of sun-dried bricks**
11. Who was the leader of a tribe ? **the chief**
12. Name a few weapons that Native Americans had ? **bow and arrow, tomahawk, spear, knife, slingshot**
13. What is a scalp ? **the hair on top of your head**
14. What did Native Americans believe in ? **mysterious forces in nature, spirits, many gods**
15. Who were shamans ? **people who had contacts with spirits, medicine men**
16. How did the early inhabitants of the Arctic region get their food ? **hunted deer and whales**
17. What did Native Americans of the Northeast and settlers celebrate together ? **Thanksgiving**
18. Name a few famous Native American tribes : **Apache, Sioux, Pueblo, Navajo, Cherokee**
19. How many Native Americans live in the US today ? **5 million**
20. In which ways has the life of Native Americans improved over the last century ? **have better education, better jobs, more integrated into society**
21. How do people on reservations get their income ? **selling handicrafts, gambling, casinos, taxes from mining**
22. What are the problems facing Native Americans today ? **high unemployment on reservations, badly paid, high suicide rate, drugs, alcohol**