Land and Choices

How removal changed Native nations

SS24.4.12c "Explain how the Indian Removal Act (1830), Second Creek War (1836) and economic policies affected the lives, rights, and territories of the Muscogee Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Seminole tribes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three causes of change: the 1830 law, the 1836 war, and a land or money rule. Near each one, circle a change it caused in people's lives, rights, or lands.

When Land Rules Changed

1 In the 1830s, many Native nations lived on lands east of the Mississippi River. White settlers wanted this land for cotton farms. The Indian Removal Act of 1830 let the U.S. government make treaties to move Native nations west. Leaders of the Muscogee Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Seminole nations did not all agree to leave. Yet U.S. pressure and unfair agreements pushed many families from their homes.

2 Money and land rules made staying harder. Under an 1832 treaty, Muscogee Creek families were promised plots of their own land in Alabama. Land buyers cheated some families out of those plots. In 1836, after broken promises and growing conflict, some Muscogee people fought U.S. forces in what is called the Second Creek War. U.S. troops then forced thousands of Muscogee people west, taking away their homes and control of their land.

3 Removal affected each nation in different ways. The Choctaw and Chickasaw signed treaties giving up eastern lands, then many moved west. A small group of Cherokee signed a removal treaty, although many Cherokee opposed it; U.S. soldiers later forced thousands to leave. Many Seminole resisted removal in Florida, and fighting lasted for years. These moves split families, caused suffering, and kept Native nations from choosing freely where to live.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Indian Removal Act and U.S. pressure change where many Native families lived?

2. How did the land rule and land buyers affect Muscogee Creek families in Alabama?

3. How did the Second Creek War affect Muscogee Creek homes and land?

4. How were the Cherokee and Seminole experiences with removal different?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four- or five-sentence museum sign explaining how a law, a land or money rule, and fighting changed Native families' lives, rights, and lands. Name at least two nations and explain one difference between their experiences.

ANSWER KEY

Land and Choices

GRADE 4 · SS24.4.12c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three causes of change: the 1830 law, the 1836 war, and a land or money rule. Near each one, circle a change it caused in people's lives, rights, or lands. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Indian Removal Act and U.S. pressure change where many Native families lived?	**The act let the U.S. government make treaties to move Native nations west. U.S. pressure and unfair agreements pushed many families from their homes.**
2	How did the land rule and land buyers affect Muscogee Creek families in Alabama?	**An 1832 treaty promised families plots of land, but land buyers cheated some families out of those plots.**
3	How did the Second Creek War affect Muscogee Creek homes and land?	**After the fighting, U.S. troops forced thousands of Muscogee people west, taking away their homes and control of their land.**
4	How were the Cherokee and Seminole experiences with removal different?	**A small group of Cherokee signed a treaty that many Cherokee opposed, and soldiers later forced thousands to leave. Many Seminole resisted removal in Florida and fought for years.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Indian Removal Act let the U.S. government make treaties to move Native nations west. Land buyers cheated Muscogee Creek families out of plots they had been promised in Alabama. After the Second Creek War, U.S. troops forced thousands of Muscogee people west, taking away their homes and control of their land. Many Cherokee opposed a removal treaty, but soldiers still forced thousands to leave. Many Seminole fought removal for years, so their experience differed from the Cherokee experience.

Accept answers that connect each action to a specific change in people's lives, rights, or lands. Students may describe different nations' experiences in different words if their comparisons match the passage.