

Land and Life

How resources shaped American Indian homes and travel

SS3G3.a "Explain why American Indian groups occupied the areas they did (SS3H1a), with emphasis on why some developed permanent villages and others did not."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each detail that tells why a group stayed in a village or traveled. Write V beside details about staying in a village and T beside details about traveling.

Choices Shaped by the Land

- ① American Indian groups chose places that could provide food, water, shelter, and useful materials. In the Northeast, Haudenosaunee communities lived near rivers, forests, and rich soil. They grew corn, beans, and squash in nearby fields. Forests supplied wood for homes and fuel. Rivers gave water, fish, and travel routes. These resources helped people remain in one place for many years.
- ② In the Southwest, many Pueblo people also built permanent villages. Rain was limited, so they settled where they could find water and farm. Some communities guided water to fields with irrigation ditches. They grew crops and made homes from adobe or stone. Because farms and homes took much work to build, people usually stayed near them.
- ③ On the Great Plains, many groups did not live in one village all year. Bison herds moved across the grasslands, and people followed them for food, hides, and tools. They used tipis that could be taken down and carried. This travel helped families reach the herds they needed. A group's way of life depended on the land and resources around it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which resources helped Haudenosaunee communities remain in one place for many years?

2 Why did many Pueblo people usually stay near their villages?

3 Why did many groups on the Great Plains travel instead of living in one permanent village all year?

4 How did water affect where people settled in both the Northeast and the Southwest?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine two American Indian groups living long ago. One group has reliable water and farmable land nearby, and the other must follow moving animal herds. Write exactly 3 sentences explaining which group would likely build a permanent village, why, and why the other group would travel.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each detail that tells why a group stayed in a village or traveled. Write V beside details about staying in a village and T beside details about traveling. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which resources helped Haudenosaunee communities remain in one place for many years?	Rivers, forests, and rich soil helped them. The rivers provided water, fish, and travel routes, while forests provided wood and soil supported crops.
2	Why did many Pueblo people usually stay near their villages?	They stayed near water and fields where they grew crops. Their adobe or stone homes and farms also took much work to build.
3	Why did many groups on the Great Plains travel instead of living in one permanent village all year?	They followed moving bison herds for food, hides, and tools. Their tipis could be taken down and carried.
4	How did water affect where people settled in both the Northeast and the Southwest?	In the Northeast, rivers gave people water, fish, and travel routes. In the Southwest, people settled where they could find water and sometimes used irrigation ditches for fields.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The group near reliable water and farmable land would likely build a permanent village because it could grow food nearby. The group that depends on moving animal herds would travel to find the animals. Moving often would make it harder for that group to stay in one village.

Accept answers that connect permanent villages to dependable water, farming, and homes or fields that required work. Accept answers that connect travel on the Great Plains to following bison and using movable tipis.