Claims and Change

How war and later decisions shaped Indiana

4.H.3 "Explain the importance of the Revolutionary War and other key events and people that impacted the development of Indiana."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number three events that helped Indiana become a state, and underline words that show what each event changed. Circle one sentence that shows why people disagreed about claims to the land.

Who Could Claim This Land?

1. In 1779, winter ice covered the land near Vincennes, a town in what is now Indiana. During the Revolutionary War, George Rogers Clark led American soldiers across flooded ground and captured the British fort there. This victory weakened British control of the area. It also helped the new United States argue that it should control land in the region after the war.

2. In 1783, the war ended with a peace treaty. Britain gave up its claim to the land that includes today's Indiana. But Native nations already lived there, and they did not sign the treaty. Many did not accept that Britain could give away their homelands. As settlers moved west, Native nations defended their land. The treaty changed who claimed control, but it did not settle who had the right to live there.

3. In 1787, Congress formed the Northwest Territory, which included land that later became Indiana. It set rules for making new states from the territory. In 1800, Congress created the Indiana Territory with its own government. As more settlers arrived, leaders asked for statehood. Indiana became a state in 1816. These steps helped turn land claimed after the war into a state, while Native nations faced land loss.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why was Clark's victory at Vincennes important to the United States?

2. How did the 1783 treaty change claims to the land without settling the disagreement?

3. How did the decisions in 1787 and 1800 help Indiana move toward statehood?

4. Why does Indiana becoming a state in 1816 not tell the whole story of what happened to the land?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label explaining how Clark's victory and one later event helped shape Indiana. Include why Native nations might tell a different story about those changes.

ANSWER KEY

Claims and Change

GRADE 4 · 4.H.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number three events that helped Indiana become a state, and underline words that show what each event changed. Circle one sentence that shows why people disagreed about claims to the land. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why was Clark's victory at Vincennes important to the United States?	**It weakened British control and helped the United States argue that it should control land in the region.**
2	How did the 1783 treaty change claims to the land without settling the disagreement?	**Britain gave up its claim, but Native nations that lived on the land had not signed the treaty and did not accept that Britain could give away their homelands.**
3	How did the decisions in 1787 and 1800 help Indiana move toward statehood?	**Congress set rules for making states from the Northwest Territory, then created the Indiana Territory with its own government.**
4	Why does Indiana becoming a state in 1816 not tell the whole story of what happened to the land?	**Native nations already lived on the land and faced land loss as settlers arrived and Indiana became a state.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Clark's victory at Vincennes weakened British control during the Revolutionary War. After the war, Britain gave up its claim to the region in a treaty, helping the United States claim the land. That claim helped lead to new territorial governments and, later, Indiana statehood. Native nations might tell a different story because they lived on the land but did not sign the treaty and faced land loss.

Accept other passage-supported explanations of how the events changed claims or government. For Part 3, look for a clear connection between the two events and an accurate explanation of the Native nations' perspective.